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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON THE INTERNATIONAL
YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

# DRAFT REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS 1/

Rapporteur: Mr. Michelangelo Pisani-Massamormile (Italy)

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. The General Assembly, at its 1279th plenary meeting on 12 December 1963, adopted resolution 1961 (XVIII), on the designation of 1968 as International Year for Human Rights, which reads as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Noting that the year 1968 will be the twentieth anniversary of the adoption and proclamation by the General Assembly of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

"Taking into account the fact that, since the adoption of the Declaration a substantial measure of progress has been achieved in giving effect to these human rights and fundamental freedoms,

"Recognizing that in spite of such progress the effective realization of the human rights and fundamental freedoms proclaimed in the Declaration remains unsatisfactory in some parts of the world,

"Believing that the cause of human rights will be well served by an increasing awareness of the extent of the progress made,

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1/ The Committee may wish to request the Secretary-General to present the final report to the Commission on Human Rights at its twenty-first session, in connexion with item 6 of the Commission's provisional agenda (E/CN.4/879), "International Year for Human Rights".

"Convinced that an appropriate way of celebrating the twentieth anniversary of the proclamation of the Declaration is to devote the year 1968 to intensified national and international efforts and undertakings in the field of human rights and also to an international review of the achievements in this field,

"Confident that the designation of the year 1968 as such a year of international review will encourage all Member States and interested organizations to intensify their efforts in the intervening years, so as to show the maximum possible progress by that time,

"1. Designates the year 1968 as International Year for Human Rights;

"2. Requests the Economic and Social Council to invite the Commission on Human Rights at its forthcoming sessions, with the assistance of the Secretary-General:

"(a) To prepare, for consideration by the General Assembly, a programme of measures and activities representing a lasting contribution to the cause of human rights, to be undertaken by the United Nations, by Member States and by the specialized agencies during the year 1968, in celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in furtherance of the objectives of the present resolution;

"(b) To prepare, for consideration by the General Assembly suggestions for a list of goals in the field of human rights to be achieved by the United Nations not later than the end of 1968;

"(c) To submit the programme of measures and activities and the suggestions for the list of goals in time for their consideration by the General Assembly at its twentieth session;

"3. Invites the specialized agencies to render all assistance to the Commission on Human Rights in the preparation of the programme of measures and activities to be undertaken during the International Year for Human Rights in celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration;

"4. Invites all Member States to intensify their domestic efforts in the field of human rights with the assistance of their appropriate organizations, in order that a fuller and more effective realization of these rights and freedoms might be achieved and might be reported at the proposed international review of such achievements in 1968 and thereafter."

2. On 17 December 1963 the Economic and Social Council, at its resumed thirty-sixth session, decided to forward the Assembly's resolution to the Commission on Human Rights.

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3. The Commission considered the item, "Designation of 1968 as International Year for Human Rights", at its 812th meeting on 14 March 1964, and adopted resolution 6 (XX), which reads as follows:

"The Commission on Human Rights,

"Noting General Assembly resolution 1961 (XVIII) designating the year 1968 as International Year for Human Rights,

"Sharing the view of the General Assembly that, in spite of the substantial measure of progress which has been achieved in giving effect to human rights and fundamental freedoms since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the effective realization of these rights and freedoms remains unsatisfactory in some parts of the world,

"Bearing in mind the broad objectives of achieving a set of goals in the field of human rights not later than 1968, and the preparation of a programme of measures and activities in the field of human rights to be undertaken by member Governments and the specialized agencies during the year 1968,

"1. Decides that a Committee consisting of thirty-four members appointed from Permanent Delegations shall meet prior to the 1965 session after consultation with the Secretary-General to recommend a programme of measures and activities to be undertaken by Member States, the United Nations and specialized agencies in celebration of the Twentieth Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in furtherance of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

"2. Decides that as part of its terms of reference, the Committee should give special thought to the possibility of holding an International Conference in 1968 to (i) review the progress which has been made in the field of human rights since the adoption of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, (ii) evaluate the effectiveness of the methods and techniques used by the United Nations in the field of human rights, and (iii) formulate and prepare a programme of further measures to be taken subsequent to the celebration of Human Rights Year;

"3. Requests the Economic and Social Council to recommend the following draft resolution to the General Assembly for consideration at its nineteenth session:

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Having considered chapter VII of the report of the Commission on Human Rights at its twentieth session,

"Recommends the following draft resolution to the General Assembly for consideration at its nineteenth session:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 1961 (XVIII) of 12 December 1963 designating the year 1968 as International Year for Human Rights,

"Recognizing the need for effective measures to be taken at both the international and the national levels to encourage the further development of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

"Reaffirming the belief that the cause of human rights will be well served by an increasing awareness of the extent of the progress made, and the conviction that the year 1968 should be devoted to intensified national and international efforts and undertakings in the field of human rights and also to an international review of the achievements in this field,

"Convinced that an intensification of efforts in the intervening years will heighten the progress that can be made by 1968,

"1. Recommends that all Member States be invited to ratify before 1968 the Conventions already concluded in the field of human rights, and in particular the following:

Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery;

ILO Convention concerning the Abolition of Forced Labour;

ILO Convention on Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation;

ILO Convention concerning Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value;

UNESCO Convention Against Discrimination in Education;

Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide;

Convention on the Political Rights of Women;

"2. Decides to hasten the conclusion of the following Draft Conventions so that they may be open for ratification and accession before 1968:

Draft Covenant on civil and political rights;

Draft Covenant on economic, social and cultural rights;

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Draft International Convention on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination;

Draft International Convention on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance;

Draft Convention on freedom of information;

"3. Decides to complete by 1968 the consideration and preparation of the following draft declarations:

Draft declaration on the elimination of discrimination in the matter of political rights;

Draft declaration on the elimination of discrimination in relation to women;

Draft declaration on the right of asylum;

Draft declaration on freedom of information."

4. At its 1338th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1964, the Economic and Social Council adopted the draft resolution submitted by the Commission as resolution 1015 E (XXXVII).

5. At its 814th meeting, on 18 March 1964, the Commission decided that invitations to appoint representatives to the Committee should be addressed to all States members of the Commission and to the other co-sponsors of General Assembly resolution 1961 (XVIII). Accordingly, the Committee was composed as follows:

MEMBERS

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| Afghanistan: . . . . . | Mr. S.M. Farouk Farhand |
| Argentina: . . . . . | Mr. D. Juan C. Beltramino<br>Mr. D. Juan C. Cimenez Melo |
| Austria: . . . . . | Mr. Georg Hernig |
| Brazil: . . . . . | Mr. Miguel Paranhos do Rio-Branco<br>Mr. Henrique de Araujo Mesquita |
| Canada: . . . . . | Miss Marion Adams Macpherson |
| Chile: . . . . . | Miss Leonora Kracht |

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| Costa Rica: . . . . . | Mr. Fernando Volio Jiménez<br>Mr. José Luis Redondo |
| Dahomey: . . . . . | Mr. Louis Ignacio-Pinto<br>Mr. Michel Emmanuel Koukoui |
| Denmark: . . . . . | Mr. Bent Skou |
| Ecuador: . . . . . | Mr. Leopoldo Benites |
| El Salvador: . . . . . | Mr. Antonio Alvarez Vidaurre<br>Mr. Felipe Vega-Gomez |
| France: . . . . . | Mr. Michel Combal |
| Ghana: . . . . . | Mr. Alex Quaison-Sackey<br>Mr. Emmanuel Yawo-Agorsor |
| Guatemala: . . . . . | Mr. Humberto Vizcaino-Leal |
| India: . . . . . | Mr. Narendra Singh<br>Mr. G.M. Singh<br>Mr. Krishan Prasad Saksena |
| Iraq: . . . . . | Mr. S.A. Saleem<br>Mr. Burhan M. Nouri |
| Italy: . . . . . | Mr. Michelangelo Pisani-Massamormile<br>Mr. Giovanni Scolamiero |
| Ivory Coast: . . . . . | Mr. Georges Anoma<br>Mr. Julien Kacou<br>Mr. M.A. Berrah |
| Jamaica: . . . . . | Mr. E.R. Richardson<br>Miss Angela E.V. King |
| Lebanon: . . . . . | Mr. Souheil Chammas |
| Liberia: . . . . . | Mr. Nathan Barnes |
| Netherlands: . . . . . | Mr. H.Th. Schaapveld |
| Nigeria: . . . . . | Mr. S.O. Adebo<br>Mr. B.C. Odogwu |
| Philippines: . . . . . | Mr. Hortencio J. Brillantes<br>Mrs. Leticia R. Shahani |

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| Poland: . . . . . | Mr. Eugeniusz Wyzner |
| Saudi Arabia: . . . . . | Mr. Jamil M. Baroody<br>Mr. Saleh A. Sugair |
| Trinidad and Tobago: . . . . . | Mr. Charles Archibald |
| Turkey: . . . . . | Mr. Selçuk Tarlan |
| Uganda: . . . . . | Mr. Apollo K. Kironde |
| Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic: . . . . . | Mr. Sergei Shevchenko |
| Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: . . . . . | Mr. Y.A. Ostrovski<br>Mr. A.V. Grodsky |
| United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: . . . . . | Mr. J.G. Taylor<br>Miss Sheila Harden |
| United States of America: . . . . | Mr. Frank C. Montero<br>Mr. Franklin H. Williams<br>Mr. A. Edward Elmendorf |
| Uruguay: . . . . . | Mr. Carlos M. Velazquez<br>Mr. Mateo Marques-Sere<br>Mr. Pelipe Montero |

SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

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| Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO): . . . | Mr. Morris A. Greene |
| International Labour Organisation (ILO): . . . . . | Mr. Philippe Blamont<br>Mr. F. Abdel-Rahman |
| United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO): . . . . . | Mr. A. Gagliotti |
| World Health Organization (WHO): . | Dr. R.L. Coigney<br>Dr. Olivier Leroux<br>Mrs. Vera Kalm |

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Category B

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| Consultative Council of Jewish Organizations: . . . . . | Mr. Moses Moskowitz |
| International Commission of Jurists: . . . . . | Mr. Charles G. Paphael |
| International Conference of Catholic Charities: . . . . . | Mr. Louis Longarza |
| International Council on Jewish Social and Welfare Services: . . . | Mr. Eugene Heresi |
| International League for the Rights of Man: . . . . . | Mr. Sidney Liskofsky |
| International Social Service: . . | Mr. Michael M. Harris |
| World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations: . . . . . | Miss Catherine Schaefer |

6. The Committee met at United Nations Headquarters, New York, on 9 June, 7, 8, 9 and 10 July, 19, 20, 21 and 22 October 1964; and 9, 16, 17, 18, 19 February 1965.

7. Mr. John P. Humphrey, Director of the Division of Human Rights, and Mr. Edward Lawson, Deputy Director, represented the Secretary-General. Mr. Nazri Rashed represented the Office of Public Information of the United Nations. Mr. Valentin A. Romanov acted as Secretary of the Committee.

Election of officers

8. At its first meeting the Committee elected the following officers:

Chairman: Mr. E.R. Richardson (Jamaica);

First Vice-Chairman: Mr. Eugeniusz Wyzner (Poland);

Second Vice-Chairman: Mrs. Leticia R. Shahani (Philippines);

Rapporteur: Mr. Michelangelo Pisani-Massamormile (Italy).

After the ninth meeting of the Committee, Mr. Hortencio J. Brillantes replaced Mrs. Shahani as Second Vice-Chairman.

## Agenda

9. At its first meeting, the Committee unanimously adopted the items listed in the provisional agenda (ST/SG/AC.5/1) as its agenda. The agenda was as follows:

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Organization of the work of the Committee
4. Programme of measures and activities to be undertaken in connection with the International Year for Human Rights
5. Report of the Committee.

## Rules of Procedure

10. At the first meeting of the Committee the Chairman suggested that, since the Committee had been established at the request of the Commission on Human Rights, its proceedings should be governed by the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council. The representatives of Saudi Arabia and of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics supported the suggestion with the reservation that the Committee should not necessarily follow the rules relating to observers of non-governmental organizations. The Committee decided to adopt the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, taking note of the reservations made by the Saudi Arabian and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics delegations with regard to their application.

## Meetings, resolutions and documentation

11. The Committee held plenary meetings. The views expressed at those meetings are summarized in the records of the first to the meetings (ST/SG/AC.5/SR.1 - ).

12. At its third meeting, the Committee heard statements by the representative of the Food and Agricultural Organization (Mr. Groene), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Mr. Gagliotti) and the World

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Health Organization (Dr. Leroux). At its fifth and eighth meetings, the Committee heard statements by the representatives of the International Labour Organization (Messrs. Segovia and Blamont).

13. The resolutions and decisions of the Committee appear below under the appropriate headings. The recommendations of the Committee on the programme o measures and activities to be undertaken in connexion with the International Y for Human Rights are set out in Chapter of the present report.

14. Documents before the Committee are listed in Annex I.

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COMMITTEE ON THE INTERNATIONAL
YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

# DRAFT REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Rapporteur: Mr. Michelangelo Pisani Massamormile (Italy)

## II. PROGRAMME OF MEASURES AND ACTIVITIES TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN CONNEXION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

### A. Preliminary consideration of the Programme of Measures and Activities

15. The Committee devoted ___ plenary meetings to an examination of item 4 of its agenda, "Programme of Measures and Activities to be Undertaken in Connexion with the International Year for Human Rights".

16. At its first meeting, held on 9 June 1964, the Committee had before it a note by the Secretary-General (ST/SG/AC.5/2) summarizing the action which had been taken by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights with regard to the designation of 1968 as International Year for Human Rights. At that meeting the Committee decided, after some discussion of the organization of its work, that the Chairman, in collaboration with the other officers of the Committee and with the assistance of the Secretariat, should prepare some guiding principles for the Committee's work and suggest specific proposals for consideration at future meetings.

17. At the Committee's second meeting, held on 7 July 1964, the Chairman presented a working paper (ST/SG/AC.5/3 and Corr.1) which he had drafted in collaboration with the other officers of the Committee and with the assistance of the Secretariat, following the decision which had been taken by the Committee. In this connexion the First Vice-Chairman, in his capacity as a member of the Bureau, pointed out that the working paper, as submitted, did not reflect either the unanimous views or a consensus of the officers of the Committee.

18. The working paper opened with an analysis of the terms of reference of the Committee, and suggested that it should consider its programme of work and draw up its report under the following main headings:

I. A programme of observances and activities to be carried out during International Year for Human Rights on Human Rights Day 1968 by inter-governmental organizations, Governments, and non-governmental organizations;

II. Conclusions as to the possibility that an international conference on human rights might be held in 1968 to review progress in the field of human rights; and

III. Suggestions for intensification of national and international efforts in the field of human rights during the period up to 1968.

Under these headings, there were some suggestions on a programme of measures and activities to be undertaken in connexion with the International Year for Human Rights.

19. The Committee devoted its second to fifth meetings to a preliminary discussion of the contents of the working paper. The proposals which it set out were characterized by some members of the Committee as comprehensive, constructive, and directed towards concrete and realistic possibilities. The opinion was expressed that the paper provided a useful starting point for the Committee's work. It was, however, regretted that unanimity of views had not been achieved on certain items, and that the working paper therefore only partially fulfilled its purpose.

20. The working paper recommended (paras. 13-14) that a series of subjects dealing with particular aspects of human rights should be selected and continuing attention focussed on each of these subjects throughout a particular period of the International Year for Human Rights. A series of twelve subjects was presented. Various members of the Committee pointed out that the list of rights to be accorded priority was incomplete, and that there was no ground for according certain rights priority over others.

21. The working paper dealt briefly (paras. 16-18) with national and international measures for the effective implementation of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and expressed the view that if by the beginning of the International Year for Human Rights the draft Covenants on human rights, including measures for their

effective implementation, had not been completed, an international effort towards the provision of effective implementation should form part of the celebration of the Year, including consultation with Member States on the establishment or activation of international or regional organs to which every natural person, every duly constituted group of individuals and every recognized non-governmental organization could bring their complaints of violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms. However, the recommendation that proposals relating to implementation of human rights should be considered by the Committee was not unanimous; some members strongly objected to any consideration by the Committee of such proposals.

23. There also was a difference of opinion in the Committee on the question whether proposals relating to implementation should be included in programmes for the observance of the International Year for Human Rights. Some members supported the idea and suggested that the Committee should try to accelerate the elaboration of such measures in the case not only of the two draft Covenants but also of other international instruments relating to human rights. Others, however, felt that the Committee should not deal with measures of implementation, as the subject was highly controversial and was to be taken up by the General Assembly.

24. The working paper contained (paras. 19-27) a series of suggestions and recommendations concerning programmes to be undertaken, in connexion with the International Year for Human Rights, by inter-governmental organizations, specialized agencies, States Members of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies, and interested international and national non-governmental organizations. In connexion with these suggestions one member of the Bureau had expressed the opinion that the celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights should encompass all States. Some members of the Committee supported this opinion, while others preferred the wording, "States Members of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies", used in the working paper. Some members of the Committee expressed the view that all organizations of the world, not only those referred to in the working paper, should take part in the celebration; however, these members felt that the Committee should not have endeavoured to suggest a programme of activities to such organizations. The consensus in the Committee was that detailed examination of the suggestions and

proposals in the working paper should be postponed until the comments of interested States, agencies, and organizations could be obtained and made available.

25. The working paper also contained (Part II) suggestions with regard to the proposed international conference on human rights. In this connexion it was pointed out that the Committee might wish to have the benefit of the views of Member States concerning the possibility that a conference of the kind contemplated might be held. Some members of the Committee warmly endorsed the idea of holding an international conference on human rights in 1968, in view of its potential usefulness in reviewing and evaluating the progress made in this field and exchanging ideas on future measures. Other members, however, had reservations with regard to the desirability of holding such a conference, and proposed various alternative possibilities. One member expressed the view that the purposes envisaged for the conference might be better served by intensifying existing programmes of seminars, institutes and fellowships. Another suggested that instead of an international conference it might be more appropriate to devote the three regional seminars to be held in 1968 to the international year. Others favoured use of part of the regular session of the General Assembly for the purposes of the conference. In the view of a number of members it was essential to examine more closely the benefits that could be expected from the proposed conference and to weigh its financial implications in view of the limited resources of the United Nations. There was general agreement with the suggestion in the working paper, that the Committee should have the benefit of views of Member States before proceeding further with the discussion.

26. In addition, the working paper contained (Part III) a series of suggestions for the intensification of national efforts in the field of human rights during the period up to 1968.

27. Each of the suggestions put forward by the Working Group was endorsed by some members of the Committee, but in each case reservations were expressed by some others. The prevailing view was that it was premature to examine the suggestions in detail until the comments of Governments could be obtained and made available. Some members felt that even then it would be too early to establish a definitive programme for the full period up to 1968, as it was possible that nearer to that year particular subjects might seem to require special study and publicity, or even that different priorities might be required in the light of changing circumstances.

28. One member of the Committee proposed that the Secretariat should produce, in collaboration with the specialized agencies concerned, a report on the situation of human rights in the world in 1967, reviewing efforts to promote respect for and observance of human rights by individual countries and the progress achieved in the period 1945-1967, briefly outlining and evaluating the work of the United Nations in the field of human rights, and suggesting any changes in method, organization and administration that appeared desirable in the light of experience.

29. Another member suggested that the list of proposals in the working paper should be supplemented by the addition of the following points: the achievement of substantial progress, in each country in particular and in all countries in general, in the observance and development of human rights and fundamental freedoms; the elimination of such violations of human rights and of the freedoms of the human person as apartheid, fascism, neo-fascism and militarism; the intensification of efforts to ensure the exercise of economic and social rights in countries where it is not guaranteed; and the strengthening of United Nations activity in the field of human rights and its concentration on certain aspects of those rights.

30. In the course of the discussion the Committee heard statements by the representatives of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and the World Health Organization (WHO).

31. At its fifth meeting the Committee, having completed a preliminary discussion of the working paper submitted by the Chairman in collaboration with the other officers, considered a draft resolution (ST/SG/AC.5/L.1) submitted jointly by Argentina, Ghana, the Netherlands and Uganda, and unanimously decided to request the Secretary-General to invite the States Members of the United Nations and of its specialized agencies, the specialized agencies, and the interested non-governmental organizations having consultative status to submit, not later than 15 September 1964, their suggestions and proposals for the programme of measures and activities to be undertaken in connexion with the International Year for Human Rights; and to communicate to them for their information the working paper referred to above and the summary records of the Committee's meetings (ST/SG/AC.5/SR.1-5). The Chairman was requested, in collaboration with the Secretary-General, to arrange for a further

series of meetings of the Committee to be held at the earliest convenient time after 15 September 1964.

32. Although the decision referred to above was adopted unanimously, the reservation was made by some members of the Committee that it violated the principle of the universality of the United Nations and that by excluding a large number of States from the activities connected with the International Year for Human Rights, the Committee distorted the very concept of such a year.

33. At its sixth to ninth meetings, held during the period 19-21 October 1964, the Committee continued the general debate on the working paper (ST/SG/AC.5/3), taking into account the observations from Governments, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations (ST/SG/AC.5/4 and Adds.1-10) which had been received by the Secretary-General in response to the invitation referred to in the resolution adopted by the Committee at its fifth meeting. Observations were received from the Governments of the following countries: Argentina, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Ceylon, China, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Iran, Italy, Laos, Liberia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, Poland, Senegal, Turkey, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the Republic of Viet-Nam. Observations were also received from the following specialized agencies: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Telecommunications Union (ITU), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Universal Postal Union (UPU) and the World Health Organization (WHO). In addition, observations were received from the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status:

CATEGORY A

World Veterans Federation

CATEGORY B

Afro-Asian Organization for Economic Co-operation
All India Women's Conference (India)
Associated Country Women of the World

CATEGORY B (continued)

Catholic International Union for Social Service
Consultative Council of Jewish Organizations
Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations
International Abolitionist Federation
International Conference of Catholic Charities
International Federation of Women Lawyers
International League for the Rights of Man
Nouvelles Equipes Internationales - International Union of Christian Democrats
World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations
World Confederation of Organizations of the Teaching Profession

REGISTER

International Council of Social Democratic Women
International Federation of Senior Police Officers
Open Door International (for the Economic Emancipation of the Women Workers)
Universal Esperanto Association
World University Service

34. The Committee agreed that members wishing to do so should make general statements on the working paper which had been prepared by the Chairman in collaboration with the other officers (ST/SG/AC.5/3) and the observations thereon received from Governments, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations; that the Chairman would then appoint a working group to sort out the various proposals made and to define areas of agreement and disagreement; and that the Committee would then make its final recommendations after discussing the working group's report.

35. The general statements, made at the seventh to ninth meetings, related for the most part to matters which had been the subject of earlier discussion, such as (1) whether the programme to be recommended should emphasize one or more rights or should cover all the rights and freedoms set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, (2) whether the question of implementation of human rights should be dealt with in the context of programmes for the International Year for Human Rights,

(3) whether there should be an international conference on human rights in 1968 or a series of seminars, or both, and (4) how education could be used to promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

36. With reference to the first question, two points of view were expressed. One was that special attention should be given, during the International Year for Human Rights, to freedom of information, equality before the law, freedom of thought, conscience and religion, and freedom from racial discrimination. The other was that if attention was to be concentrated exclusively on a series of definite subjects, the importance of the over-all goal - the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights - might be lost from sight.

37. With reference to the second question, there was support for the suggestion that Member States should be asked to promote and protect human rights within their own borders, provided that the prerogatives of States were respected and no time-limit was set. Some members supported that suggestion in the working paper concerning international measures of implementation of human rights, but others were strongly of the view that it was no part of the Committee's task to deal with measures of implementation, a matter which was already under consideration by the competent bodies.

38. With reference to the third question, there was general agreement a review of the situation existing in the world with regard to the promotion and protection of human rights would be useful, particularly in connexion with other activities associated with the International Year for Human Rights; however, several members expressed doubts that a world conference was a good method of stock-taking. It was pointed out that the value of such a conference was yet to be demonstrated, and that its usefulness could not be evaluated until it was known what would be its agenda and its ultimate objective, and what costs would be involved. It was suggested by various members that the General Assembly could devote part of its 1968 session to reviewing the results achieved so far in the field of human rights and to establishing new goals for the future, and that other competent organs, such as the Economic and Social Council, could give special attention to questions relating to human rights in 1968; these members saw no reason why an international conference should be given the task of reviewing achievements in the field of human

rights and planning future programmes when that purpose could be achieved by simpler means having no financial implications.

39. With regard to the fourth question, several members of the Committee stressed the importance of educational activities as a means of promoting respect for and observance of human rights. It was suggested that every activity to be recommended by the Committee should have an educational component, and that the entire programme should be geared to creating, by 1968, a world-wide state of mind which would be less adverse than in 1965 to the idea of international protection of human rights. It was also suggested that universities and other institutions of higher learning should be drawn into United Nations efforts in the field of human rights, and in particular that an independent centre or autonomous institution for study and research in the field of human rights, which could draw upon the intellectual resources of the universities, and which might function along the lines of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, might be proposed. In addition, the importance of a systematic and widespread effort to give instruction in human rights, through seminars, conferences and other meetings, was stressed.

40. With regard to the future work of the Committee, several members expressed the view that attention should be concentrated on proposals and suggestions which received unanimous support. It was pointed out that if the Committee's proposals were not to be adopted unanimously, the question might arise whether the differences of opinion were confined to the activities and celebrations themselves or whether they extended to basic principles, a situation which might prejudice the promotion and protection of human rights. Once the Committee had reached a consensus on certain forms of celebration, it was added, it should study thoroughly how such celebrations should be organized.

41. At its ninth meeting, the Committee decided that a working group should be established to submit a report on the documentation and suggestions before the Committee, together with one or more draft resolutions for the Committee to discuss and approve. It was agreed that the working group should be able to call upon UNESCO for advice whenever it saw fit to do so. The Committee further decided to hold no further plenary meetings until after the working group had produced its report.

42. The Working Group, appointed by the Chairman and composed of the representatives of Costa Rica, Jamaica, the Philippines, Turkey, Uganda, USSR, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America, met on several occasions between 23 October 1964 and 9 February 1965, and submitted its report (ST/SG/AC.5/5) to the Committee at its tenth meeting, held on 9 February 1965. The Committee also had before it a statement presented by the Secretary-General, on the financial implications of the report of the Working Group (ST/SG/AC.5/5/Add.1).

43. The report of the Working Group was divided into three parts. Part I contained a short introduction. Part II, which dealt with the programme of measures and activities, was divided into six sections, each consisting of a number of paragraphs and relating respectively to activities which would be organized by the United Nations, by Member States, by the specialized agencies and other international and national organizations, to the proposed international conference on human rights, and to co-ordinating machinery. The different sections represent a consensus of the opinions of the Working Group, except where there was a foot-note to the contrary. Section E, which included a proposal concerning an international conference on human rights, had been drawn up to serve as a basis for further discussion in the Committee. Lastly, in Part III, a draft resolution was presented for consideration and adoption by the Committee.

44. The Committee decided, at its tenth meeting, that it would examine Part I and sections A, B, C, D and F of Part II, paragraph by paragraph, and that a brief general debate should be held on section E of Part II. The Committee further decided, at its twelfth meeting, that the Committee would consider the various sections of the Working Group's report as draft recommendations, which the Committee would improve upon for inclusion in the present final report. It was agreed that the Committee, after examining the Working Group's report paragraph by paragraph, would try to come to a unanimous decision in each case.

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COMMITTEE ON THE INTERNATIONAL
YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

# DRAFT REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Rapporteur: Mr. Michelangelo PISANI MASSAMORMILE (Italy)

## B. Recommendations of the Committee Relating to the Programme of Measures and Activities to be Undertaken in Connexion with the International Year for Human Rights

### Introduction

44. Paragraphs 5 to 36 of the report of the Working Group were presented to the Committee as draft recommendations for its consideration and approval. The Committee decided to include in its report an analysis of its discussions in the consideration of the working document, and in particular a balanced presentation of the various opinions expressed during the debate.

### 1. Theme of the Ceremonies, Activities and Celebrations

45. Paragraph 5 of the report of the Working Group read as follows:

> "In the Committee's opinion the programme of measures and activities to be undertaken throughout the International Year for Human Rights should be calculated to encourage on as wide a basis as possible both nationally and internationally the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms and to bring home to all the people the breadth of the concept of human rights and fundamental freedoms in all its aspects. The theme of the ceremonies, activities and celebrations should be 'The Deeper Meaning of Individual Liberty' 1/ as expounded in the Universal Declaration. The aim should be to dramatize this deeper meaning and to illustrate how narrow is the dividing line between a scrupulous observance of the obligation to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms and an effective denial of these rights and freedoms in our political, economic and social relationships."

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"1/ One delegation suggested that the theme should be based on either the provisions of paragraph 2 of the Preamble of the United Nations Charter or Article 55 (c) of the same document."

46. The paragraph was considered by the Committee at its eleventh and twelfth meetings. While some members of the Committee were of the opinion that the theme suggested by the working group was most appropriate, others expressed misgivings about it. Several members raised the objection that it was a limited concept, and excluded the important right of self-determination. It was pointed out that the theme of the observances connected with the International Year for Human Rights could not be restricted to individual liberty, since individual liberty was inseparable from the liberty of peoples. It was also pointed out that the word "liberty" had political overtones, and that the expression "deeper meaning of

individual liberty" tended to relate more to a philosophical than to a legal concept. Some members expressed the view that the theme for the International Year for Human Rights should be taken either from the Charter or from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as these were texts which had been carefully considered and on which all Member States agreed.

47. On the other hand, some members maintained that the theme proposed by the Working Group was appropriate and should be maintained. They pointed out that all of the human rights and fundamental freedoms enumerated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights emanated from the concept of individual liberty, and that the International Year for Human Rights should centre on this concept. Further, they maintained that not only traditional individual rights, but also collective rights, including economic and social rights and the right to independence, were derived from the principle of individual liberty which, far from excluding anything, opened the way to all developments leading to an improvement in the human condition. Some members favoured the theme proposed by the Working Group on the grounds that it was concrete and embraced all the principles of the Charter; moreover, in their view, it had the advantage of being concise and striking, and of lending itself easily for use as a slogan by all organizations and individuals taking part in the observances connected with the International Year for Human Rights.

48. In the course of the discussion various members of the Committee suggested new wordings for the theme of the observances, and for the final sentence of paragraph 5. The representative of Saudi Arabia expressed the view that the theme should be taken from the second paragraph of the preamble of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in which the peoples of the United Nations reaffirmed their "faith in human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small". The representative of India suggested the following wording: "Reaffirmation of faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men, and of nations large and small". The representative of the Philippines suggested that the proposed theme should be amended to read: "Greater recognition and enjoyment of the human rights and fundamental freedoms expounded in the Universal Declaration". With regard to the final sentence of paragraph 5, the representative of the Ivory Coast suggested that it be revised to read: "The aim should be to dramatize the deeper meaning of universal and effective respect for

human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion". The representative of Liberia suggested that the sentence should be revised to read: "The aim should be to dramatize universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion".

49. At the twelfth meeting, the representative of Liberia informed the Committee that most of the members who had presented proposals had conferred and had agreed to propose the following as the theme of the International Year for Human Rights: "Greater recognition and enjoyment of the fundamental freedoms of the individual and of human rights everywhere". The final sentence of paragraph 5 would be revised to read: "The aim should be to dramatize universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion".

50. The representative of Argentina suggested that the word "full" should be inserted in the proposed theme, before the word "enjoyment". The Committee accepted the wording proposed by the representative of Liberia, as amended by the representative of Argentina, and decided that, since the new wording took into account the provisions of article 55 (c) of the Charter, there was no further need for foot-note 1.

51. Accordingly, the Committee submits to the Commission on Human Rights the following recommendation:

I

In the Committee's opinion the programme of measures and activities to be undertaken throughout the International Year for Human Rights should be calculated to encourage, on as wide a basis as possible, both nationally and internationally, the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms and to bring home to all the people the breadth of the concept of human rights and fundamental freedoms in all its aspects. The theme of the ceremonies, activities and celebrations should be: "Greater recognition and full enjoyment of the fundamental freedoms of the individual and of human rights everywhere". The aim should be to dramatize universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion.

2. A Year of Activities

52. Paragraph 6 of the report of the Working Group read as follows:

"It is agreed that all the participants in the celebrations should be invited to devote the year 1968 as a whole to activities, ceremonies and observances. International and regional seminars, national conferences, lectures and discussions on the subject of the Universal Declaration 2/ should be organized throughout the year. Some countries will wish to stress the entire content of the Universal Declaration as further elaborated in later United Nations human rights programmes. Some participating countries may wish to emphasize during particular periods of the International Year, rights and freedoms in connexion with which they have faced special problems. During each such period the Governments would review against the standards set by the Universal Declaration their domestic legislation and the practices within their society in respect of the particular right or freedom which is the subject of that period's observances. They would assess the extent to which the right had been effectively secured and would give publicity to it and make special efforts to promote amongst their citizens a basic understanding of its nature and significance so that the gains already made might not easily be lost in the future. To the extent that the right or freedom had not yet been effectively secured, every effort would be made during the period towards its achievement. In the choice of subjects, priority would of course be given to those which will stimulate the widest possible participation on the part of the citizens and private organizations within the country. Bearing in mind the differentiation which the United Nations has established between rights of a civil and political character and those of an economic, social and cultural character, countries may wish to emphasize rights and freedoms falling in both categories. 3/"

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"2/ One delegation felt that this should be extended to include subsequent declarations adopted by the General Assembly such as resolution 1514 (XV), Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples and the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination.

"3/ One delegation felt that there should be an illustrative list with the different categories of rights as in ST/SG/AC.5/3 (para. 14) appended to the report."

53. The paragraph was considered by the Committee at its twelfth and thirteenth meetings. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics indicated that the representative of his Government in the Working Group had made the proposal referred to in foot-note 2, and expressed the view that the scope of the international and regional seminars, national conferences, lectures and discussions envisaged in the paragraph should not be restricted to the Universal Declaration

of Human Rights, but should encompass also the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples, the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and all other basic texts of the United Nations dealing with human rights. While some members of the Committee supported this view, others maintained that it would be preferable to mention only the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, first because the International Year for Human Rights was designed primarily to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of that instrument, and secondly because reference to other documents might open the door to political controversies which might detract from the observance of the anniversary. It was pointed out that, in any event, the right to self-determination was set out in the Declaration, particularly in articles 1 and 21, and that the elimination of colonialism had been recognized, in the report of the Working Group, as one of the objectives of the programme.

54. The representative of Argentina proposed the deletion of foot-note 2 and the insertion in the text, after the words "Universal Declaration," of the words "and on other declarations and instruments of the United Nations relating to human rights". The Committee agreed to the proposal.

55. With regard to foot-note 3, the representatives of Afghanistan and Costa Rica requested that the view of their delegations, that an illustrative list of the various rights to which priority might be given during the International Year for Human Rights, along the lines of the list appearing in document ST/SG/AC.5/3, paragraph 14, should be recorded in the present report. The representative of Saudi Arabia proposed the deletion of the last sentence of paragraph 6, which in his view implied that the United Nations had established a differentiation between rights of a civil and political character and those of an economic, social and cultural character. The representative of the Philippines, while agreeing to the deletion, proposed that the word "would" in the penultimate sentence should be replaced by "could", and that the words "rights of a civil and political character or those of an economic, social and cultural character" should be inserted after "those".

56. The Committee agreed to the deletion of the last sentence of the paragraph, together with foot-note 3, and to the suggested revision of the penultimate sentence.

57. Accordingly, the Committee submits to the Commission on Human Rights the following recommendation:

II

It is agreed that all the participants in the celebrations should be invited to devote the year 1968 as a whole to activities, ceremonies and observances. International and regional seminars, national conferences, lectures and discussions on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and on other declarations and instruments of the United Nations relating to human rights, should be organized throughout the year. Some countries will wish to stress the entire content of the Universal Declaration, as further elaborated in later United Nations human rights programmes. Some participating countries may wish to emphasize, during particular periods of the International Year, rights and freedoms in connexion with which they have faced special problems. During each such period the Governments would review, against the standards set by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, their domestic legislation and the practices within their society in respect of the particular right or freedom which is the subject of that period's observances. They would assess the extent to which the right had been effectively secured and would give publicity to it and make special efforts to promote amongst their citizens a basic understanding of its nature and significance so that the gains already made might not easily be lost in the future. To the extent that the right or freedom had not yet been effectively secured, every effort would be made during the period towards its achievement. In the choice of subjects priority could of course be given to those rights of a civil and political character and those of an economic, social and cultural character.

3. Activities and Observances by the United Nations

58. Paragraph 7 of the report of the Working Group read as follows:

"It is recommended that in December 1967 the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Executive Secretaries of the Regional Economic Commissions should issue special messages on the International Year for Human Rights to be released on 1 January 1968, such messages to be widely circulated by all communications media, including communications satellites."

/...

59. The paragraph was considered by the Committee at its thirteenth and fourteenth meetings. The representative of the Philippines proposed that the recommendation in the first sentence should include the executive heads of the specialized agencies as well as the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Executive Secretaries of the regional economic commissions. After a brief discussion in the Committee, it was agreed that the words "the executive heads of the specialized agencies" should be inserted after "the Secretary-General of the United Nations", and that the words "and the Executive Director of UNICEF" should be inserted after "regional economic commissions".

60. The Committee also agreed to suggest that the message of the President of the General Assembly should be released on 1 January 1968, and that the messages of other officials should be released during 1968 on the dates they deemed most appropriate. The Committee further agreed to delete the last three words of the paragraph, referring to communications satellites.

61. Accordingly, the Committee submits to the Commission on Human Rights the following recommendation:

III

It is recommended that in December 1967 the President of the General Assembly should issue a special message on the International Year for Human Rights, to be released on 1 January 1968. The Committee further recommends that the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Executive Heads of the specialized agencies, the Executive Director of UNICEF, and the Executive Secretaries of the regional economic commissions should issue similar messages during 1968 at the time they deem to be most appropriate, such messages to be widely circulated by all communications media.

4. Suggestions for a list of goals in the field of human rights to be achieved by the United Nations not later than 1968

62. Paragraph 8 of the report of the Working Group read as follows:

"Resolution 1961 (XVIII) of the General Assembly in operative paragraph 2 requested the Economic and Social Council to invite the Commission on Human Rights with the assistance of the Secretary-General to prepare inter alia for consideration by the General Assembly suggestions for a list of goals in the field of human rights to be achieved by the United Nations not later than the end of 1968. The Commission on Human Rights has drawn up such a list of goals and the list has been embodied in a draft resolution which the Economic and Social Council has approved and recommended to the General Assembly for consideration at its nineteenth session.

"[The Committee notes with satisfaction the fact that the Committee on the International Co-operation Year has mentioned two of the Conventions in the list drawn up by the Commission on Human Rights:

The Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, Slave Trade, and institutions and practices similar to Slavery (7 September 1956);

The Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (9 December 1948);

and has recommended that all Member States which have not yet done so should become parties to these Conventions before the end of 1965.] 4/

"[In the opinion of the Committee there is another Convention which ought to be added to the list of instruments to be completed and opened for ratification before the end of 1968 - a Convention on the Rights of the Child and of the Family. The Committee accordingly recommends that the Economic and Social Council should invite the General Assembly to consider adding this Convention to the list.] 5/"

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"4/ One delegation insisted that the first convention be inserted.

"5/ Two delegations thought that this convention should be deleted."

63. The paragraph was considered by the Committee at its fourteenth to sixteenth meetings. Members of the Committee were unanimous in approving the first and second sub-paragraphs, and agreed that the square brackets should be removed from the latter.

64. With regard to the proposal in the third sub-paragraph, that the Committee should state its view that a Convention on the Rights of the Child and of the

Family should be added to the list of instruments to be completed and opened for ratification before the end of 1968, and that the Committee should accordingly recommend that the Economic and Social Council should invite the General Assembly to consider adding this Convention to the list, there was a difference of opinion in the Committee.

65. Those who favoured the inclusion of the sub-paragraph maintained that the Committee was fully entitled, if it considered it appropriate, to recommend that the Economic and Social Council invite the General Assembly to provide for the completion of a convention on the rights of the child and of the family by the end of 1968; that the work would not be difficult since material which could be used was already in existence; that the Committee, in making such a recommendation, would not be prejudging the decision to be taken ultimately by the competent bodies but would be using the opportunity presented to it to take the initiative in a field which concerned it; that the rights of the child and of the family were of such importance to all human beings that they could not be ignored; and that if children had been able to make their voices heard in the Committee, its members would have realized how urgent was the need for such a convention. It was also pointed out that no objections to the substance of the proposed convention had been voiced in the Committee.

66. Those who opposed the inclusion of the sub-paragraph expressed reservations with regard to the advisability of drafting such conventions and pointed out that the Economic and Social Council had already suggested, in resolution 1015 E (XXXVII), that priority be accorded to sixteen instruments in the field of human rights, and that giving priority to too many projects would have the same effect as giving priority to none of them; that it was unrealistic to expect the completion by 1968 of an instrument of which not even a preliminary draft had been submitted to any United Nations body; that the Committee would be exceeding its terms of reference by recommending the preparation of a new international convention; that the rights of children were being considered by United Nations bodies and organs in other contexts; that the work programme of the Commission on Human Rights was already sufficiently heavy up to 1968 without adding to it the task of preparing a new instrument; and that it was preferable to concentrate on ensuring the implementation of existing instruments rather than to proliferate new ones.

67. The representative of the Philippines proposed, at the fourteenth meeting of the Committee, that the text in sub-paragraphs 2 and 3 should be replaced by the following:

> "The Committee notes that the recommendation of the Economic and Social Council contained in resolution 1015 E (XXXVII) had not been considered by the General Assembly at its nineteenth session. The Committee hopes that, at its twenty-first session, the Commission on Human Rights may give consideration to the list contained in its resolution 6 (XX), as adopted by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1015 E (XXXVII), with a view to including, as appropriate, other United Nations documents and proposals relating to human rights."

68. The representative of Jamaica proposed, at the fifteenth meeting of the Committee, that if the Committee should decide to adopt the Philippine text to replace the text in sub-paragraph 3, which she preferred, it should insert, after the words "with a view to including", the words "the Convention on the Rights of the Child and of the Family and ...". The representative of the Philippines was unable to accept this amendment.

69. The Committee agreed, at its fifteenth meeting, that the Philippine text would be included in the present report so that the Commission on Human Rights would be aware of the two proposals which had been considered by the Committee. It further agreed to include in the present report not only paragraph 8, including the square brackets around its last sub-paragraphs, but also views at variance with it.

70. Accordingly, the recommendations submitted by the Committee to the Commission on Human Rights read as follows:

## IV

Resolution 1961 (XVIII) of the General Assembly, in operative paragraph 2, requested the Economic and Social Council to invite the Commission on Human Rights, with the assistance of the Secretary-General, to prepare, inter alia, for consideration by the General Assembly, suggestions for a list of goals in the field of human rights to be achieved by the United Nations not later than the end of 1968. The Commission on Human Rights has drawn up such a list of goals and the list has been embodied in a draft resolution which the Economic and Social Council has approved and recommended to the General Assembly for adoption at its nineteenth session.

The Commiteee notes with satisfaction the fact that the Committee on the International Co-operation Year has mentioned two of the Conventions in the list drawn up by the Commission on Human Rights: the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery of 7 September 1956, and the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide of 9 December 1948, and has recommended that all Member States which have not yet done so should become parties to these Conventions before the end of 1965.

[In the opinion of the Committee there is another Convention which ought to be added to the list of instruments to be completed and opened for ratification before the end of 1968 - a Convention on the Rights of the Child and of the Family. The Committee accordingly recommends that the Economic and Social Council should invite the General Assembly to consider adding this Convention to the list.]

71. Regarding the paragraph in brackets, the members of the Committee expressed different opinions. While some members observed that the Committee was fully entitled to recommend to insert this convention, in view of the fact that it is an objective which has been endorsed by several organs of the United Nations, some other members expressed reservation with regard to the desirability of drafting such a convention and considered that, in any case, reference to a text on which work had not even begun was inappropriate in the Committee's recommendations.

72. In view of these decisions, the representative of Denmark requested that the present report should record the view of his Government that the proposal in sub-paragraph 3 of paragraph 8 might have the unfortunate effect of increasing the workload of bodies responsible for the drafting of documents relating to human rights, and that it was not for the Committee, which had been asked only to make recommendations of a technical nature regarding the International Year for Human Rights, to assume a responsibility which lay rather with the Committee's parent bodies. The representative of the United States likewise requested that the present report record the view of his Government, which was opposed to the inclusion of the third sub-paragraph of paragraph 8 because it was disturbed by the proliferation of conventions and thought that it would be better to concentrate on ensuring the implementation of existing instruments.

5. Elimination of Certain Practices

73. Paragraph 9 of the report of the Working Group reads as follows:

"Believing that certain practices which constitute some of the grosser forms of the denial of human rights still persist within the territories of some Member States, the Committee expresses the hope that positive measures will be taken by all Member States by 1968 with respect to the elimination of violations of human rights such as:

"(1) slavery, the slave trade, institutions and practices similar to slavery, and forced labour;

"(2) all forms of discrimination based upon race, sex, language, religion, political and other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status;

"(3) colonialism and the denial of freedom and independence.6/"

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"6/ The opinion of the Committee was not unanimous as to the inclusion of the last objective (3)."

74. The paragraph was considered by the Committee at its sixteenth meeting. During the discussion, one member of the Committee raised the objection that the paragraph dealt with matters which came within the purview of another United Nations body, and that his Government could not agree to a statement that colonialism was a violation of human rights or to a recommendation that it should be brought to an end by a definite date, regardless of the circumstances. He pointed out that there were abuses of human rights under regimes other than colonial ones, and that while some Powers had been rapidly decolonizing others had engulfed other peoples and deprived them of their human rights. Another representative remarked that the goals stated in the paragraph would not be of much value unless practical ways of achieving them were indicated.

75. To take account of the significant changes which had taken place in the attitudes of most colonial Powers, the representative of Canada suggested that the paragraph should be amended to read: "... the hope that positive measures would continue to be taken..." However, he later withdrew the suggestion.

76. On the proposal of the representative of Liberia the Committee agreed to approve the paragraph as it stood, omitting foot-note 6.

77. Accordingly, the Committee submits to the Commission on Human Rights the following recommendations:

V

Believing that certain practices which constitute some of the grosse forms of the denial of human rights still persist within the territories some Member States, the Committee expresses the hope that positive measure will be taken by all Member States by 1968 with respect to the eliminatio of violations of human rights such as:

(1) slavery, the slave trade, institutions and practices similar to slavery, and forced labour;

(2) all forms of discrimination based upon race, sex, language, reli political or other opinion, national or social origin, birth or other stat

(3) colonialism and the denial of freedom and independence.

6. A History of the Declaration

78. Paragraph 10 of the report of the Working Group read as follows:

"In the recommendations concerning the celebration of the fifteenth celebration of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, prepared by the Commission on Human Rights and approved by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 940 (XXV), it was suggested that the United Nations should 'consider in connexion with arrangements for the Twentieth Anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration in 1968, the preparation and publication o a history of the Declaration and other international instruments on human rights, with special reference to progress already achieved, current endeavours and work remaining to be done in the field of human rights, and with a brief and objective account of the role of the United Nations in th process of decolonialization'. The Committee felt that the proposed publication of the history of the Universal Declaration and other internat instruments in human rights should be of a very comprehensive nature, indicating also those articles of the Declaration whose acceptance and imp in national legislation have been particularly difficult.

/

"The Committee recommends that the Secretary-General be requested (in collaboration with the interested specialized agencies) to proceed immediately with the preparation of the proposed publication, with a view to having it available by June 1967 and to circulate it widely in the official languages in connexion with the observance of the International Year for Human Rights. In this respect the Committee considered it advisable to leave to the discretion of the Secretary-General the decision on the appropriateness of establishing an editorial board to render him any advice necessary in the preparation of the publication. Such a board might be composed of experts representing, as far as practicable, the main forms of civilization and principal legal systems of the world."

79. The paragraph was considered by the Committees at its sixteenth, twenty-first, and _____th meetings.

80. The discussion in the Committee centered chiefly on whether or not the proposed history should be prepared by "experts", as suggested by the Working Group, or by historians, and whether or not the usefulness of the history would warrant the substantial costs involved in its preparation.

81. The representative of Argentina, who favoured the Working Group's proposal, expressed the view that the publication of a history of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international instruments in the field of human rights should not merely commemorate the adoption of the Declaration; it should also help to promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. As he interpreted the Working Group's proposal, the publication envisaged would refer not only to progress already achieved and current endeavours, but also to work remaining to be done in the field of human rights. He felt that an evaluation of that nature in national and international terms, could be effected only through a study entrusted to experts. He suggested, as a possible alternative, that the United Nations might publish a "history of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international instruments in the field of human rights" in the form of a booklet designed for the general public and would be widely disseminated; the booklet could reproduce the text of the Declaration and recount its history, mentioning, where appropriate, the other international instruments in the field of human rights. In addition, the United Nations might publish, in co-operation with the specialized agencies concerned, a "Report on human rights throughout the world in 1967", recapitulating national and international efforts to promote respect for human rights and summing up the progress achieved between 1945 and 1967. Thirdly, he

suggested that the Committee might recommend that experts should study the possibilities which might be opened up by the use of new methods and techniques in the field of human rights.

82. The representative of Saudi Arabia, on the other hand, expressed the view that the drafting of the proposed history could not be entrusted to experts, since their knowledge of men and of the world was often too bookish. Further, he opposed the preparation of the proposed history as premature in view of the intense constitutional activity occurring in many countries which had only recently attained their independence, and because he considered it too ambitious a work which would cost too much to produce, publish and distribute. Like the representative of Argentina, he favoured the publication of a booklet designed for the general public, in "popular" form, recounting the various stages in the adoption and implementation of the Declaration. Such a publication, in his view, would stimulate the conscience of the public with regard to human rights.

83. (To be completed later with regard to previous and following paragraphs on this question.)

7. International Measures for the protection and guarantee of human rights

84. Paragraph 11 of the report of the Working Group read as follows:

> "Measures for the effective implementation of the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration have been under consideration in the United Nations for many years. A draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and a draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights are almost completed, the main outstanding questions being whether one form or another of international machinery, or any international machinery at all, should be provided for in order to secure the implementation of these Covenants. The Committee is confident that action on these two draft Covenants and the other Conventions or international agreements in the field of human rights listed in the draft resolution prepared by the Commission on Human Rights for consideration by the Assembly, will be completed before the beginning of the International Year for Human Rights.
>
> "Some members of our Committee consider that no recommendations concerning international measures for the protection of human rights should be made in this report since the question of implementation is still under active consideration in the General Assembly and its general principles will be an important subject of discussion at the next session in connexion with the two draft Covenants mentioned above and the draft Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

"Other members of the Committee consider, however, that if by the beginning of 1968 international machinery for the effective implementation of these Covenants and Conventions does not form part of the instruments as adopted, a special United Nations effort towards the provision of international machinery should form part of the measures undertaken in the International Year. It is considered that consultation should take place with Member States on the establishment or activation during 1968 of international or regional organs to which every person, duly constituted groups or individuals or recognized non-governmental organizations could bring formal complaints against any violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

"Accordingly, the Committee recommends that the subject of international measures for the guarantee or protection of human rights to be considered further. [If necessary, in connexion with the preparations for the proposed international Review Conference to be held in 1968 and which is dealt with later in this report.]"

85. The paragraph was considered by the Committee at its sixteenth meeting.

86. Some members of the Committee endorsed the paragraph as it stood, and pointed out that it was imperative that international machinery for the effective implementation of the covenants on human rights should be established. Others, however, could not agree to the proposal that a special effort should be made to complete the measures of implementation, as this seemed to imply the use of a forum outside the General Assembly and would run counter to normal procedures.

87. The representative of Argentina proposed the deletion of the second, third and fourth sub-paragraphs. He further proposed that the second sentence of the first sub-paragraph should be deleted and that the third sentence should be amended to read: "The Committee is confident that action on the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the measures of implementation, and the other conventions or international agreements in the field of human rights listed in the draft resolution prepared by the Commission on Human Rights for consideration by the General Assembly, will be completed before the beginning of the International Year for Human Rights." The representative of the Netherlands proposed that if the Argentine amendment were to be found acceptable, the following text should be added to it: "If, however, by the beginning of 1968, international machinery for the effective implementation of these covenants and conventions does not form part of the instruments as adopted, international measures for the guarantee or

protection of human rights should be a subject of serious study during the International Year for Human Rights." The representative of the Philippines proposed that the Netherlands sub-amendment should be completed by the insertion of the words, "or international agreements", after the word "conventions". The representative of Argentina accepted the Netherlands and Philippines modifications of his amendments.

88. Some members of the Committee favoured retention of the original text, while others supported the Argentine amendment as revised. In particular, the representatives of Costa Rica and Jamaica requested that their reservations concerning the Argentine amendments should be recorded in the present report.

89. The representative of the Soviet Union pointed out that paragraph 11, like other paragraphs of the report, should reflect the Committee's decision, taken in respect of paragraph 6, to refer not only to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights but also to the other declarations and instruments of the United Nations relating to human rights. The Rapporteur was authorized to attend to this point.

90. Accordingly, the Committee submits to the Commission on Human Rights the following recommendation:

VI

Measures for the effective implementation of the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other declarations and instruments of the United Nations relating to human rights have been under consideration in the United Nations for many years. The Committee is confident that action on the draft Covenant on civil and political rights and the draft Covenant on economic, social and cultural rights, and measures of implementation, and on the other conventions or international agreements in the field of human rights listed in the draft resolution prepared by the Commission on Human Rights for consideration by the General Assembly, will be completed before the beginning of the International Year for Human Rights. If, however, by the beginning of 1968 international machinery for the effective implementation of these covenants and conventions or international agreements does not form part of the instruments as adopted, international measures for the guarantee or protection of human rights should be a subject of serious study during the International Year for Human Rights.

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COMMITTEE ON THE INTERNATIONAL
YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

# DRAFT REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Rapporteur: Mr. Michelangelo PISANI MASSAMORMILE (Italy)

8. A Human Rights Prize

91. Paragraph 12 of the report of the Working Group read as follows:

> "The Committee recommends that the United Nations should establish in 1968 an international prize to be known as the 'United Nations Human Rights Prize' to be awarded to the person who is judged to have contributed most significantly to the advancement of the cause of human rights up to the time of the award. The Committee recommends further that the Secretary-General of the United Nations should be authorized to fix the amount of the prize, to accept contributions from private sources towards the necessary funds, to select the prize-winner and to make the award during the International Year for Human Rights."

92. The paragraph was considered by the Committee at its sixteenth to eighteenth meetings. Some members of the Committee proposed deletion of the paragraph, while others supported its retention. Those who favoured deletion pointed out that the terms of the paragraph were too vague, first in respect of the criteria to be applied in awarding the prize, secondly in respect of the procedure for selection of the prize-winner, and thirdly in respect of the question of financing. Those who supported its retention suggested, however, that the establishment of a committee to assist the Secretary-General in the task of selection of the prize-winner might help to forestall objections and avoid rancour.

93. The representative of Guatemala proposed that paragraph 12 should be left as it stood, except that the words "to select" in the penultimate line should be replaced by the words "to appoint the committee which will select ...". The representative of the Philippines, after consulting with various members of the Committee, proposed, and the Committee accepted, a compromise text to replace the text of paragraph 12 submitted by the Working Group, as follows:

> The Committee considered the question of according international recognition through the United Nations of significant contributions by individuals in the field of human rights as part of the activities in 1968. The discussions on this question (ST/SG/AC.5/SR.16-18) dealt with the various aspects of the matter such as its impact on the promotion of human rights; the kind and form of recognition; the criteria for selection of awardees; and by whom the selection should be made. In view of the importance of the question and the issues raised, the diversity of opinions expressed, and the lack of time for a decision thereon, the Committee decided to invite the Commission on Human Rights to make appropriate recommendations to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council.

9. Activities and ceremonies during 1968

94. Paragraph 13 of the report of the Working Group read as follows:

"It is further recommended that the Secretary-General should:

"(a) issue human rights stamps and first-day covers on 1 January 1968, and arrange for special cancellations during 1968;

"(b) promote the widest and most intensive dissemination of the Declaration in as many languages as possible by means of printed posters, leaflets and pamphlets issued during 1968;

"(c) prepare and publish a special pamphlet on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights specifically for the International Year;

"(d) prepare a radio documentary script on the Declaration for general distribution and encourage and assist broadcasting and television organizations to produce documentary or dramatic programmes relating to human rights;

"(e) design and make available to Member States and States members of the specialized agencies a special poster symbolizing the concept of human rights and freedoms, so that this poster may be reproduced and distributed nationally during International Year;

"(f) direct United Nations officers at Headquarters and in information centres and regional offices to give lectures and write articles on the Declaration and to co-operate with information media and educational authorities in various countries in organizing the celebration of the International Year;

"(g) request the distributors of United Nations publications to prepare a special display of relevant United Nations documents for exhibition during the months of November and December 1968.

"For Human Rights Day, 1968, it is recommended that the United Nations should:

"(a) organize at Headquarters a special meeting of the General Assembly on 10 December 1968, in commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration. Surviving members of the Commission on Human Rights who participated in the drafting of the Declaration should be invited to be present at the meeting; and

"(b) organize a concert at United Nations Headquarters to celebrate the twentieth anniversary and give the concert world-wide radio and television coverage."

95. The representative of the Office of Public Information suggested several changes in the text of the paragraph. With reference to sub-paragraph (e), he suggested that the opening words, "design and", should be deleted and that the word "design" should be inserted between the words "poster" and "symbolizing". In the second sub-paragraph, he suggested that the words "give the concert world-wide radio and television coverage" should be replaced by the words "obtain widest possible radio and television coverage for the concert". The Committee agreed to these alterations.

96. With reference to sub-paragraph (a) of the first sub-paragraph, the Rapporteur was authorized to revise the text if necessary in order to take into account the relationship existing between the Secretary-General and the United Nations Postal Administration.

97. With reference to sub-paragraph (a) of the second sub-paragraph, some members of the Committee expressed doubts as to whether the expense involved in inviting surviving members of the Commission on Human Rights to attend the proposed special meeting of the General Assembly could be fully justified.

98. The Committee approved the text submitted by the Working Group with the changes referred to in paragraphs 94 and 95. Accordingly the Committee submits to the Commission on Human Rights the following recommendation:

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It is recommended that the Secretary-General should:

(a) make arrangements for the issuing of human rights stamps and first-day covers on 1 January 1968, and for special cancellations during 1968;

(b) promote the widest and most intensive dissemination of the Declaration in as many languages as possible by means of printed posters, leaflets and pamphlets issued during 1968;

(c) prepare and publish a special pamphlet on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights specifically for the International Year;

(d) prepare a radio documentary script on the Declaration for general distribution and encourage and assist broadcasting and television organizations to produce documentary or dramatic programmes relating to human rights;

/

(e) make available to Member States and States members of the specialized agencies a special poster designed to symbolize the concept of human rights and freedoms, so that this poster may be reproduced and distributed nationally during International Year;

(f) direct United Nations officers at Headquarters and in information centres and regional offices to give lectures and write articles on the Declaration and to co-operate with information media and educational authorities in various countries in organizing the celebration of the International Year;

(g) request the distributors of United Nations publications to prepare a special display of relevant United Nations documents for exhibition during the months of November and December 1968.

67. For Human Rights Day, 1968, it is recommended that the United Nations should:

(a) organize at Headquarters a special meeting of the General Assembly on 10 December 1968, in commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration. Surviving members of the Commission on Human Rights who participated in the drafting of the Declaration should be invited to be present at the meeting; and

(b) organize a concert at United Nations Headquarters to celebrate the twentieth anniversary and obtain the widest possible radio and television coverage for the concert.

## Section B: Activities and Observances by Member States and States members of the specialized agencies

10. The intensification of domestic efforts in the field of human rights during the period up to 1968

99. Paragraph 15 of the report of the Working Group read as follows:

"In operative paragraph 4 of resolution 1961 the General Assembly invited all Member States to intensity their domestic efforts in the field of human rights with the assistance of their appropriate organizations in order that a fuller and more effective realization of these rights and freedoms might be achieved and might be reported at the proposed international review of such achievements in 1968 and thereafter. The Committee has considered this proposed intensification of national domestic effort and in doing so has borne in mind the fact that an intensive programme of activity in this field is now in progress, in which the United Nations, the specialized agencies, national Governments and non-governmental organizations are already involved. It can be assumed that each Member State will wish to respond in its own way to the invitation expressed in the fourth operative paragraph of General Assembly resolution 1961 (XVIII). For this reason the Committee did not consider it wise to propose that a wide variety of measures should be added by Member States to their existing programmes. Instead, the Assembly should be asked to invite all Member States to make a special effort during this period in two particular spheres:

"(i) in the sphere of their national legislation;

"(ii) in the sphere of education towards a fuller realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

"The Committee agreed that the intensification of efforts on the national level does not exclude intensification of efforts by States Members on an international scale such as within the United Nations and its agencies."

100. The paragraph appeared as the first proposal in section B of the Working Group's report, which bore the heading: "Activities and observances by Member States[1/] and States members of the specialized agencies". The foot-note indicated that "One delegation felt that invitations to participate in the activities should go to all States irrespective of membership in the United Nations." There was some preliminary discussion in the Committee with reference to the section heading and its foot-note, preceding the discussion of the text of paragraph 15.

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101. The Committee considered the title of section B, and paragraph 15, at its eighteenth meeting. While some members approved of the wording of the title, others favoured the use of the words "All States", instead of the words "Member States and States members of the specialized agencies". These members maintained as a position of principle that all States should take part in United Nations activities, including those activities connected with the International Year for Human Rights.

102. The Committee agreed to maintain the section heading as proposed by the Working Group, and to record in the present report the diverging views which had been expressed on the subject.

103. With regard to the text of paragraph 15, the representative of the Netherlands proposed that the words "within the framework of national legislation and policy and according to available means" should be inserted in the third sentence between the words "each Member State" and "will wish to respond". The Committee approved this proposal.

104. Accordingly, the Committee submits to the Commission on Human Rights the following recommendation:

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Section B: Activities and observances by Member States and States members of the specialized agencies

Some Members felt that when an invitation is addressed in this report to Member States and States members of the specialized agencies it should go to all States irrespective of membership in the United Nations.

In operative paragraph 4 of resolution 1961 (XVIII), the General Assembly invited all Member States to intensify their domestic efforts in the field of human rights, with the assistance of their appropriate organizations, in order that a fuller and more effective realization of these rights and freedoms might be achieved and might be reported at the proposed international review of such achievements in 1968 and thereafter. The Committee has considered this proposed intensification of national domestic effort and in doing so has borne in mind the fact that an intensive programme of activity in this field is now in progress, in which the United Nations, the specialized agencies,

national Governments and non-governmental organizations are already involved. It can be assumed that each Member State, within the framework of national legislation and policy and according to available means, will wish to respond in its own way to the invitation expressed in the fourth operative paragraph of General Assembly resolution 1961 (XVIII). For this reason, the Committee did not consider it wise to propose that a wide variety of measures should be added by Member States to their existing programmes. Instead, the Assembly should be asked to invite all Member States to make a special effort during the period in two particular spheres:

(i) in the sphere of their national legislation;

(ii) in the sphere of education towards a fuller realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The Committee agreed that the intensification of efforts on the national level does not exclude intensification of efforts by States Members on an international scale such as within the United Nations and its agencies.

## 11. National Advisory Bodies on Human Rights

105. Paragraph 16 of the report of the Working Group read as follows:

"The Committee recommends that the Assembly should invite all Governments of Member States to consider establishing advisory bodies on their national legislation composed of independent and impartial individuals of outstanding calibre and including jurists of recognized reputation. These bodies would be requested: to examine the national constitution or fundamental law and all existing national legislation against the standard of the principles enunciated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to consider in what respects the legislation falls short of this standard, and to suggest to the Government the enactment of new or amending laws to bring the national legislation into conformity with the principles of the Declaration.

"Wherever an organ already exists which could appropriately be charged with this duty, it is recommended that this organ should be invited by the Government to undertake the suggested review of the legislation.

"The national advisory bodies on human rights should be invited to endeavour to complete their examination and to submit their report not later than the end of the year 1967 in order that measures to give effect to any required improvement in the legislation may be introduced before the end of the International Year for Human Rights. /Member States which administer Non-Self-Governing Territories should consider establishing such advisory bodies in these Territories./

"Governments should be urged to give serious consideration to the conclusions of their advisory bodies, with a view to bringing national legislation into conformity with the principles and objectives of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights not later than the end of 1968."

106. The Committee considered paragraph 16 at its eighteenth meeting. Divergent points of view were expressed by various members.

107. Several members favoured a review of national legislation conducted along the lines set out in paragraph 11. These members agreed that action should be taken as soon as possible in order that changes in national legislation might be introduced not later than 1968, and that the reports of the advisory bodies might be fully implemented not later than the end of 1968.

108. However, some members felt that the proposal was not consistent with the fundamental principle of State jurisdiction in internal affairs, and that it was not practical because the establishment of advisory bodies on human rights questions often came within the competence of national legislatures, and sometimes of the electorate, and entailed complex and lengthy procedures. Some members stated that in their opinion it was not for the Committee to indicate to Governments what specific machinery should be adopted for the purpose of the proposed review, as such review could only be carried out in accordance with the parliamentary and administrative procedures followed in each State. Some members pointed out that the national legislation of their countries already incorporated all the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, while others recalled that their Governments had already established committees to review national legislation against the standards set out in the Declaration, and that some of these committees had completed their work.

109. Accordingly, the Committee submits to the Commission on Human Rights the following recommendation:[1/]

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1/ Text prepared by the Rapporteur and submitted for approval by the Committee.

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IX

The Committee recommends that the General Assembly should be requested to invite Governments to review their national legislation against the standards of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other declarations and instruments of the United Nations relating to human rights, and consider the enactment of new or amending laws to bring their legislation into conformity with the principles of the Declaration and with the other documents relating to human rights.

12. National Measures for the Protection and Guarantee of Human Rights

110. Paragraph 20 of the report of the Working Group read as follows:

"In the opinion of the Committee it is a matter of the greatest importance that within the territory of each Member State, machinery of some kind should exist and should operate effectively to ensure that human rights and freedoms are realized in practice. The Committee is convinced that national machinery for the protection and guarantee of these rights and freedoms should receive attention in the activities of the International Year for Human Rights.

"It is noted that, in accordance with resolution 888 G (XXXIV) of the Economic and Social Council, the Secretary-General of the United Nations is preparing a 'Guide to National Legal Institutions and Procedures for the Protection or Promotion of Human Rights'. This Guide is to be published in four volumes and it is likely that the first three volumes dealing with constitutional, judicial and administrative institutions and procedures will be completed and distributed to Member States by the end of 1967. Information will therefore be available to Member States concerning the machinery which has been employed by many different nations in the protection and guarantee of individual human rights and freedoms.

"The Committee accordingly recommends that all Member States should be invited by the United Nations, as one of the measures they will undertake in connexion with the International Year, to establish or refine, if necessary by the end of 1968 their national machinery for giving effect to the fundamental rights and freedoms. /If, for example, within any Member State, arrangements do not exist which will enable individual citizens or groups of citizens to bring before independent national tribunals or authorities any complaints they may have concerning the violation of their human rights and obtain effective remedies, the Member State should undertake that such arrangements will be introduced. If such arrangements already exist the Member State should undertake to refine and improve them. This is not a recommendation that any particular improvement in machinery should be

introduced. In one set of circumstances what may be needed is the establishment of a Special Court; in another the appointment of an Ombudsman or Procurator General or smiliar official; in another simply the setting up of offices to which individual citizens may bring their complaints./ The determination as to what machinery or improvement in machinery is required for giving effect to the fundamental rights and freedoms would be within the sole discretion of the Government concerned."

111. The Committee considered paragraph 20 at its nineteenth meeting. While some members favoured acceptance of the paragraph in the form as drafted by the Working Group, others submitted amendments to this text or expressed their reservations concerning the substance of the proposal.

112. The representative of Liberia proposed the deletion of the passage in square brackets in the third sub-paragraph. The representative of Saudi Arabia proposed the deletion of that sub-paragraph. The representative of Trinidad and Tobago proposed that the third sub-paragraph should be retained, and that the words "should undertake that such arrangements will be introduced" and "should undertake to refine and improve them" should be replaced by the words "should be invited to undertake that such arrangements will be introduced" and "should be invited to undertake to refine and improve them". The representative of the Philippines proposed that, in the same sub-paragraph, the words "individual citizens or groups of citizens" should be replaced by the words "individual persons or groups of persons". The representative of the Philippines also proposed that the second sentence of the second sub-paragraph should be redrafted to read: "When this Guide has been published and distributed, information will therefore be available to Member States ...".

113. The Committee agreed that the second sentence of the second sub-paragraph should be deleted, and the third sentence replaced by a sentence similar to the one proposed by the Philippines, the exact wording to be determined by the Rapporteur; that in the third sub-paragraph, the square brackets should be deleted; that the words "individual citizens or groups of citizens" should be replaced by "a person or group of persons"; and that the words "be invited to" should be inserted after the verb "should".

114. In connexion with the substance of paragraph 20 as a whole, the representatives of Poland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics expressed their reservations, which the Committee decided should be summarized in the present report. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics regarded it as inappropriate to give an over-detailed description of the procedure which States should adopt in order to ensure respect for human rights. Furthermore, attention was not focussed in the right direction. The impression was given that the Committee was recommending Member States to set up national machinery for the protection of human rights. But to make such a recommendation was not within its terms of reference. Rather than recommend Governments to establish new machinery, it would be wiser to request them to ensure effective respect for human rights, so that such special machinery might be contemplated as a means for the protection and guarantee of those rights. The impression should not be given that, as soon as such machinery existed, human rights would be automatically respected. Governments could not be made, by a few strokes of the pen, to modify their procedures; that could be achieved only through a long process of discussion. Only fully competent organs, e.g., the Commission on Human Rights, the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, and their superior bodies, were entitled to recommend the establishment of national bodies with a view to ensuring respect for human rights, for those organs were composed of experts who based their judgements on detailed and thorough study of exhaustive data, particularly data taken from replies by Governments to questionnaires. The representative of Poland shared these views.

115. The representative of Saudi Arabia expressed reservations concerning the third sub-paragraph of paragraph 20, while approving the first two sub-paragraphs. With regard to the third sub-paragraph, he pointed out that the draft Covenants on human rights contained measures of implementation which had not yet been adopted by the General Assembly but which would, doubtless, be adopted shortly. For the time being, no one knew what the provisions in question would be, or what procedure or machinery might ultimately be established. Generally speaking, the question of what measures were best calculated to ensure respect for human rights was far from settled. In these circumstances, he advised the Committee to exercise caution lest it interfere in the domestic affairs of States.

116. In accordance with the decision referred to in paragraph 112, the Committee submits to the Commission on Human Rights the following recommendation:

X

In the opinion of the Committee it is a matter of the greatest importance that within the territory of each Member State, machinery of some kind should exist and should operate effectively to ensure that human rights and freedoms are realized in practice. The Committee is convinced that national machinery for the protection and guarantee of those rights and freedoms should receive attention in the activities of the International Year for Human Rights.

It is noted that, in accordance with resolution 888 G (XXXIV) of the Economic and Social Council, the Secretary-General of the United Nations is preparing a "Guide to National Legal Institutions and Procedures for the Protection or Promotion of Human Rights". When this Guide has been published and distributed, information will be available to Member States concerning the machinery which has been employed by many different nations in the protection and guarantee of individual human rights and freedoms.

The Committee accordingly recommends that all Member States should be invited by the United Nations, as one of the measures they will undertake in connexion with the International Year, to establish or refine, if necessary, by the end of 1968 their national machinery for giving effect to the fundamental rights and freedoms. If, for example, within any Member State, arrangements do not exist which will enable individual persons or groups of persons to bring before independent national tribunals or authorities any complaints they may have concerning the violation of their human rights and obtain effective remedies, the Member State should be invited to undertake that such arrangements will be introduced. If such arrangements already exist, the Member State should be invited to undertake to refine and improve them. This is not a recommendation that any particular improvement in machinery should be introduced. In one set of circumstances what may be needed is the establishment of a Special Court; in another the appointment of an Ombudsman or Procurator General or similar official; in another simply the setting up of offices to which individual citizens may bring their complaints. The determination as to what machinery or improvement in machinery is required for giving effect to the fundamental rights and freedoms would be within the sole discretion of the Government concerned.

13. Education to promote respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms

117. Paragraphs 17, 18 and 19 of the report of the Working Group were considered by the Committee at its nineteenth meeting and were adopted without alteration, as follows:

XI

Believing that there are limits to the effectiveness of laws in making the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms a reality, the Committee is convinced that a concentration of effort on legal and institutional guarantees of human rights, although it will go far towards the achievement of objectives we seek, will not go all the way. Attention needs to be concentrated, in addition, on means of changing some old ways of thinking on these subjects, and of rooting out deep-seated prejudices in regard to race, colour, sex, religion and so on. In short, it is necessary to embark upon a complementary programme of education, including both adult and child education, designed to produce new thinking on the part of many people in regard to human rights. Accordingly, it is recommended that an integral part of any programme of intensification of effort to be undertaken in the next three years should be a world-wide educational programme in human rights. Such an educational programme would be consistent with the objectives of the development decade and also with the objectives in the field of human rights of the proposed United Nations Training and Research Institute. This programme should aim at mobilizing some of the energies and resources of:

(a) universities, colleges and other institutions of higher learning, private and public, within Member States;

(b) media of information and mass communication, including the Press, radio and television;

(c) foundations and charitable, scientific and research institutions;

(d) the teaching staff of primary and secondary schools;

(e) interested non-governmental organizations;

towards the education of the people, adults and children, about the state of human rights in their communities and elsewhere, and about the further steps

which need to be taken in order to secure the fullest and most effective realization of these rights. Member States with federal systems of government are called upon to encourage the activities in the field of human rights of local and state educational institutions.

It would guarantee the success of this educational effort if the national leaders within Member States would give it every encouragement. Within this effort, Governments would organize conferences of universities and other institutions of higher learning within their territories and invite them to consider how the curricula and their teaching programmes can be utilized to improve the awareness in the student population of the fundamental questions of human rights, how their research programmes might be directed to this end, and how they can co-operate with other interested organizations, through extra-mural and other programmes in furthering the aims of adult education in human rights. In this context, studies of local customs and traditions could be undertaken by national authorities with a view to examining to what extent they might be fostering and encouraging attitudes or values contrary to the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and how these customs and traditions can be eventually eliminated. Charitable and philanthropic foundations might be invited to consider making grants for programmes of research and study in this field and to make bursaries and fellowships available for research in human rights. Responsible authorities of colleges, and of elementary and secondary schools, could be invited to review their curricula and textbooks in order to eradicate bias, intentional and unintentional, towards the preservation of ideas and concepts contrary to the principles of the Universal Declaration, and to introduce courses of study which positively promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It has been noticed with appreciation that certain universities have already included in their curricula courses in the international protection of human rights; other universities could be guided by such programmes and benefit by those experiences. Attention is also called to the UNESCO Associated Schools Project in Education for International Understanding.

Governments might also convene, or give encouragement to the convening of, conferences amongst the radio and television broadcasting services within their territories, inviting them to consider how their facilities might most

usefully co-operate with other organizations within the country, and with international agencies, in advancing the effort to educate the people into greater respect for individual rights and fundamental freedoms.

The specialized agencies of the United Nations, especially UNESCO and the ILO, can make a particularly valuable contribution towards the intensification of the educational effort with the co-operation of United Nations regional institutes, bearing in mind Economic and Social Council resolution 958 D I (XXXVI) of 12 July 1963; it is recommended that they should be invited to do so.

14. Activities and ceremonies during 1968

118. Paragraph 21 of the report of the Working Group read as follows:

"The Committee recommends the following programme:

"(a) that Governments formally proclaim 1968 to be International Year and observe it as such;

"(b) that Heads of State or of Government issue special messages during the Human Rights Year reaffirming faith in the dignity and worth of the human person and dedication to the implementation of the Declaration;

"(c) that Governments either appoint an ad hoc committee to co-ordinate the national celebrations for the International Year within their countries or entrust its organization to an existing institution;

"(d) that Governments seize the opportunity of the International Year for Human Rights to redouble their efforts to bring about the signature and ratification, or acceptance in any other form, of all the existing international conventions or treaties designed to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms in particular spheres;

"(e) that Governments should consider establishing local awards similar to the United Nations Human Rights Prize to honour persons who have made distinguished contributions to the promotion of human rights and make these awards during the International Year; 8/

"(f) that Governments maintain contact with the specialized agencies, undertake to participate in any regional conferences and seminars they may wish to organize and take advantage of the experience and facilities of these agencies when planning their national celebrations."

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"8/ One delegation thought that this recommendation should not be put to Member States as it might be abused for political reasons."

119. The Committee considered the paragraph at its nineteenth meeting. Some members felt that the Committee should not make its recommendations mandatory, and objected in particular to the wording of sub-paragraphs (e) and (f) as being too strong. The representative of Nigeria, who shared this view, proposed the insertion, in the first line of the paragraph, of the words "that Governments be invited to adopt the following programme" after the word "recommends". The representative of Argentina, who also shared this view, proposed that the words "undertake to participate" in sub-paragraph (f) should be replaced by the words "and participate", and that the last part of the sub-paragraph beginning with the words "and take advantage" should be deleted.

120. The representative of the Ivory Coast proposed the addition of the following sub-paragraphs, based on the texts adopted in connexion with paragraph 13 of the report of the working group:

"(g) that Governments might issue human rights stamps and first-day covers on 1 January 1968, and arrange for special cancellations during 1968;

"(h) that Governments might promote the widest and most intensive dissemination of the Declaration in as many languages and dialects as possible, by means of printed posters, leaflets and pamphlets issued during 1968;

"(i) that Governments might hold a special session of their Parliament or National Assembly on 10 December 1968 to mark the twentieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights."

121. The representative of Canada proposed that in sub-paragraph (e), the word "persons" should be replaced by the words "their nationals", so that there might be no confusion between national awards and the proposed international human rights prize.

122. The representative of Guatemala proposed the deletion from sub-paragraph (e) of the reference to the international prize, and suggested that the sub-paragraph should begin with the words "that Governments should consider the possibility of establishing one or more national awards to reward persons...". The representative of Canada agreed to the proposal on condition that the words "their nationals" would be used instead of "persons".

123. The representative of the Netherlands proposed that in sub-paragraph (i) the word "preferably" should be inserted before the words "on 10 December 1968". The Chairman suggested that the word "meeting" should be substituted for the word "session" in that sub-paragraph. The representative of Nigeria proposed that the word "hold" should be replaced by the words "examine the possibility of holding".

124. The Committee approved paragraph 21 in its entirety, bearing in mind the amendments which had been made which the Rapporteur was authorized to incorporate into the text.

125. The Committee accordingly submits to the Commission on Human Rights the following recommendation:

XII

The Committee recommends that Governments be invited to adopt the following programme:

(a) that Governments formally proclaim 1968 to be International Year for Human Rights, and observe it as such;

(b) that Heads of State or of Government issue special messages during the International Year for Human Rights, reaffirming their faith in the dignity and worth of the human person and their dedication to implementation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

(c) that Governments either appoint an ad hoc Committee to co-ordinate the national celebrations for the International Year for Human Rights within their countries, or entrust its organization to an existing institution;

(d) that Governments seize the opportunity of the International Year for Human Rights to redouble their efforts to bring about the signature and ratification, or acceptance in another form, of all the existing international conventions or treaties designed to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms in particular spheres;

(e) that Governments should consider the possibility of establishing one or more national awards to reward their nationals who have made distinguished

contributions to the promotion of human rights, and make these awards during the International Year for Human Rights;[1/]

(f) that Governments maintain contact with the specialized agencies of the United Nations and participate in any regional conferences and seminars they may wish to organize;

(g) that Governments might issue human rights stamps and first-day covers on 1 January 1968, and arrange for special cancellations during 1968;

(h) that Governments might promote the widest and most intensive dissemination of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in as many languages and dialects as possible, by means of printed posters, leaflets and pamphlets issued during 1968;

(i) that Governments should examine the possibility of holding a special meeting of their Parliament or National Assembly, in order to commemorate the Twentieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, preferably on 10 December 1968.

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1/ One delegation thought that this recommendation should not be put to Member States as it might be abused for political reasons.

Section C: Activities and Observances by the Specialized Agencies

126. Paragraphs 22-24 of the report of the Working Group, relating to activities and observances by specialized agencies, was considered by the Committee at its twentieth meeting. The Committee heard statements by the representatives of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the United Nations Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (UNESCO). On the suggestion of the representative of Lebanon, the opening phrase of paragraph 22 was reworded to read: "Specialized agencies of the United Nations whose work touches on the promotion of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms have endorsed ...". The representative of Canada proposed the deletion of the word "simply" in the first sentence of paragraph 24. The representative of Guatemala proposed that the phrase "not later than December 1966" in sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph 24, should be replaced by: "as soon as possible before 1 January 1967". The Committee accepted these amendments and authorized the Rapporteur to make consequential changes in the following paragraphs.

127. Accordingly, the Committee submits to the Commission on Human Rights the following recommendation:

XIII

Specialized agencies of the United Nations whose work touches on the promotion of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms have endorsed the proposal to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and have responded readily to the General Assembly's invitation to render all assistance in the preparation of the United Nations programme of measures and activities. Representatives of some of these agencies have attended the meetings of the Committee and have given their advice on the measures which the Committee has under consideration. These agencies have further expressed their intention both to organize their own celebrations during the International Year and to assist and co-operate with Member States and private organizations, national and international, in producing effective and significant programmes of celebration in the various countries to which their services extend.

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Some of the specialized agencies have informed the Committee of the activities contemplated by them, and this information is set out below:

UNESCO

(a) The Director-General is prepared to convene a commemorative ceremony at UNESCO headquarters on 10 Decmeber 1968 commensurate with the importance of the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration.

(b) Special articles will be published in UNESCO publications, particularly the UNESCO Courier, and radio programmes will be prepared.

(c) A round-table discussion is planned under UNESCO auspices in which leading representatives in the field of education, science, and culture would review significant developments in the field of human rights during the preceding twenty years.

(d) UNESCO is willing to consider organizing possibly in collaboration with international press and news services a conference on Freedom of Information with special reference to the use of information media in the promotion of human rights.

Universal Postal Union

UPU is willing:

(a) to prepare a special message for 1 January 1968;

(b) to publish a special issue of the Journal, "Postal Union" wholly or partly devoted to commemorating the Declaration of Human Rights;

(c) to facilitate amongst member countries of UPU the plans for the issue of special postage stamps and first-day covers and the use of special cancellations during 1968.

The International Labour Organisation will, inter alia, stimulate employer and worker organizations within Member States to publicize the Declaration as effectively as possible and take part in the celebration of the International Year. ILO will further give more detailed consideration in the interval until 1968 to the planning of an ILO programme for the International Year.

In the light of the information set out above, the Committee recommends that the specialized agencies whose work touches on the promotion of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms should be invited:

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(a) to proceed with the planning of their individual programmes of celebrations;

(b) to communicate directly with the Governments of Member States and with private, national, and international organizations, so as to co-operate with them in the organization of national and regional programmes of celebrations for 1968;

(c) to inform the Secretary-General of the programmes they have formulated as soon as possible before 1 January 1967.

## Section D: Activities and observances by other international and national organizations

128. Paragraphs 25-27 of the report of the Working Group read as follows:

"25. The Committee recommends that other organizations having an interest in the promotion of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including non-governmental organizations in consultation with ECOSOC, United Nations associations, research institutions, universities and other institutions of higher learning and other private organizations should be invited to participate fully in the celebration of the International Year and to organize special activities of their own during 1968. The invitation to the non-governmental organizations in consultation with ECOSOC would be issued by the Secretary-General and to national organizations by their respective Governments.

"26. In particular, it would be suggested that the non-governmental organizations having consultative status with ECOSOC 9/ should:

"(a) adopt the Universal Declaration of Human Rights or articles thereof as appropriate, as the themes of their annual or special conference in 1968;

"(b) organize commemorative ceremonies on the Declaration during International Year for Human Rights particularly on Human Rights Day 1968;

"(c) print and distribute the text of the Declaration, and prepare and publish pamphlets, leaflets and posters on the Declaration;

"(d) organize community projects, such as panel discussions on local problems of human rights, children's parades and display of the United Nations flag in school and business buildings; and

"(e) encourage local communities to establish a list of questions with a view to investigating and sounding out public opinion as to the communities' effectiveness in promoting the principles of the Declaration.

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"9/ One delegation insisted that the programme for non-governmental organizations should not be singled out for mention, but that it should apply to all organizations taking part.

"27. Other organizations having similar interests would be encouraged to take similar action.

"Schools and universities should be invited to hold special assemblies and organize courses or seminars on human rights during the Year.

"It should be suggested to research institutions and universities that they consider publishing during the International Year historic declarations, famous bills on human rights, and great orations and speeches on human rights, with appropriate commentaries and annotations.

"Radio and television networks should be encouraged to carry special programmes and newspaper editors to publish editorials on the Declaration which would be printed or reprinted in whole or in part so as to assist in awakening the widest possible interest in the Declaration. Other information media could organize public debates on great issues of freedom.

"Religious and other national bodies should be invited to hold special services and celebrations or corresponding meetings of a cultural or traditional nature in celebration of the Declaration of Human Rights."

129. The paragraphs were considered by the Committee at its twentieth meeting.

130. With reference to paragraph 25, the representative of Poland proposed the deletion of the words "and other private organizations". As this proposal gave rise to objections on the part of some other members, the representative of the Philippines proposed, as an alternative, that the word "private" should be replaced by the word "appropriate". This amendment was acceptable to the representative of Poland and others who shared his view. The Committee therefore approved the Philippine amendment.

131. On the suggestion of the representative of the Office of Public Information, the Rapporteur was authorized to insert in paragraph 25 a reference to the issuance of invitations to organizations in contact with that Office.

132. With reference to paragraphs 26 and 27, which were considered together, the representative of Lebanon proposed that the two paragraphs should be combined and should begin with the following statement: "It would be suggested that these organizations should...". He suggested the first sub-paragraph of paragraph 27 could then be deleted, and the order of the next two sub-paragraphs could be reversed.

133. The representative of India proposed that the last sub-paragraph of paragraph 27 should be revised to read as follows: "Appropriate bodies in Member States could be invited to hold special services and observances of a cultural or traditional nature in celebration of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights."

134. On the suggestion of the representative of the Office of Public Information, the Rapporteur was authorized to insert in the fourth sub-paragraph of paragraph 27 a reference to book publishers.

135. The representative of the United Kingdom suggested that, if the two paragraphs were to be combined, the introductory statement might read: "It would be suggested that the non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and other organizations having similar interests should ...".

136. The representative of the Philippines suggested that paragraph 26 should begin with the words, "Within the framework of their respective programmes the various organizations mentioned above should be invited to consider the following activities for the year 1968". Paragraph 26 would then continue, and paragraph 27 would be combined with it in the form proposed by the representative of Lebanon, taking into account the amendment to the last sub-paragraph proposed by the representative of India. The representative of Lebanon accepted the Philippine proposal.

137. The Committee approved the text of the combined paragraphs 26 and 27, revised in accordance with the proposal of the representatives of Lebanon, the Philippines and India.

138. Accordingly the Committee submits to the Commission on Human Rights the following recommendation:

XIV

The Committee recommends that other organizations having an interest in the promotion of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, non-governmental organizations in contact with the United Nations Office of Public Information, United Nations associations, research institutions, universities and other institutions of higher learning, and other appropriate organizations, should be invited to participate fully in the celebration of the International Year for Human Rights and to organize

special activities of their own during 1968. The invitation to the organizations in consultative status and to those in contact with the Office of Public Information would be issued by the Secretary-General, while the invitation to national organizations would be issued by the Governments of the countries concerned.

Within the framework of their respective programmes, the various organizations mentioned above should be invited to consider the following activities for the year 1968:

(a) to adopt the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, or articles thereof, as appropriate, as the themes of their annual conference for 1968 or of special conferences held during that year;

(b) to organize commemorative ceremonies on the Declaration during the International Year for Human Rights, and particularly on Human Rights Day, 10 December 1968;

(c) to print and distribute the text of the Declaration, and prepare public pamphlets, leaflets, and posters on the Declaration;

(d) to organize community projects, such as panel discussions on local problems of human rights, children's parades, and display of the United Nations flag in school and business buildings;

(e) to encourage local communities to establish a list of questions with a view to investigating and sounding out public opinion as to the community's effectiveness in promoting the principles of the Declaration;

(f) to suggest to research institutions and universities that they consider publishing, during the International Year for Human Rights, historic declarations, famous bills, and great orations and speeches on human rights, with appropriate commentaries or annotations;

(g) to encourage radio and television networks to carry special programmes, newspaper editors to publish editorials on the Declaration which could be printed or reprinted in whole or in part, and book-publishing firms to issue special publications, including books and booklets, on human rights problems designed to publicize the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and to encourage other media of information to organize public debates on great issues of freedom;

(h) to invite appropriate bodies in Member States to hold special services and observances, of a cultural or traditional nature, in celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

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COMMITTEE ON THE INTERNATIONAL
YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

# DRAFT REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Rapporteur: Mr. Michelangelo PISANI MASSAMORMILE (Italy)

Section E: Proposed International Conference on Human Rights

139. Although the members of the Working Group did not reach agreement on all points, section E of the report of the Working Group, relating to the proposed international conference on human rights, was submitted to the Committee as a working paper, to serve as a basis for further discussion. The section reads as follows:

"28. The Committee gave a great deal of attention to the holding of an International Conference during the International Year for Human Rights 1968. The most important area of discussion was the formulation of the purposes of the Conference, whether it would provide an effective medium or forum for the purposes stated in resolution 6 (XX) of the Commission on Human Rights and how best it could make a lasting contribution to the cause of human rights within the meaning of General Assembly resolution 1961 (XVIII). It was necessary to spend time to elaborate these purposes as a few members expressed vague misgivings about the proposal, not because they considered it to be a waste of time but because they doubted whether the likely results would justify the substantial charge on the United Nations budget which an international Conference of the kind contemplated would involve.

"In view of these considerations the following purposes were decided on as a further elaboration of the original purposes stated in the resolution:

"(i) to review in the light of the report of four special regional seminars to be held in 1966 and 1967, the progress of the United Nations Human Rights Programme since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

"(ii) to evaluate the effectiveness of the methods and techniques used by the United Nations in the field of human rights;

"(iii) to formulate and prepare a programme of further measures to be taken subsequent to the celebrations of Human Rights Year.

"29. With regard to (i) the Committee felt that the review of progress within States would be essential and would be best kept on a regional level. This, the Committee realized was a delicate matter. There would always be the risk that in an international forum such a review could be used to make unjustifiable attacks on the policies of particular governments by excessive concentration on known defects in their domestic human rights programme. It seemed to the Committee therefore that such a review could be most safely and appropriately carried out in the first place, not in the conference proper but in regional seminars, one to be held in each of the four main regions of the world. The purpose of the seminars would be (a) to discuss the methods and techniques being used by the Member States of the region in implementing human rights programmes; (b) to examine the progress made by these Member

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States with their national programmes and the obstacles these programmes have encountered; and (c) to reach conclusions in regard to the means whereby these national programmes can be facilitated, stimulated and improved in future.

"The seminars, held under the United Nations Advisory Services Programme, would be held in 1966 and 1967. Such seminars would of course be attended by experts who could be expected to examine the achievements and the shortcomings of their own and other countries.

"In elaboration and explanation of the third purpose of the conference, (iii) above, the Committee is of the opinion that the conference should study and encourage:

"(a) the adoption of measures designed to accelerate the promotion of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in line with the provision of General Assembly resolution 1776 (XVII) which emphasizes the need to enhance the effectiveness and increase the practical results of United Nations activity in this field; and should study

"(b) proposals aimed at securing effective implementation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

"(c) the elimination of overlapping by co-ordinating and consolidating activities within the United Nations and the specialized agencies;

"(d) the effectiveness of the Advisory Services programme including evaluation of its scope and proposals for its future development.

"30. The Committee then considered by which organ of the United Nations the Conference would be convened, what would be its venue, its duration, the means of preparing for it and its method of financing. It was agreed that the Conference should be convened by the General Assembly for a period of about four weeks. It could be held in the country of a Member State, possessing suitable facilities, willing to be host country and who is prepared to meet the expenses. However, in the event of there being no such country, the Conference should then be held at the United Nations Headquarters provided that the General Assembly convenes two weeks earlier in 1968 and ends by about 24 November, so that the Conference would meet for four weeks before Christmas.

"31. The Committee next considered the probable terms of reference of the Preparatory Committee. It was agreed that the Commission on Human Rights should be requested at its twenty-first session to select a Committee of fifteen members, the majority of whom would be members of the Commission. The Preparatory Committee should be financed from the budgetary provisions for the Human Rights Programme or from the funds of the present Advisory Services programme. This Committee should make proposals for the terms of reference and structure of the Conference, the draft agenda and the duration of the Conference. The Preparatory Committee would also supervise the

preparation of documentation necessary for (a) regional seminars which would be prepared and collated by the United Nations Secretariat and (b) for the Conference. The latter would include the preparation of technical studies and analyses on methods used by the United Nations and specialized agencies in their programmes. The Committee should be authorized to engage a few expert consultants to prepare the necessary studies. The cost of engaging these experts would be met from the funds of the Advisory Services Programme. As in the case of the studies for the regional seminars they will be prepared in conjuction with the Secretariat of the United Nations.

"32. A study of the estimated cost of the Conference should be the third task of the Preparatory Committee which would make suggestions as to the question of financing the Conference. The Preparatory Committee should be authorized, however, to investigate the possibility of securing voluntary contributions from the host country, if one is found, and from other countries willing to contribute towards the cost of the Conference. To the extent that voluntary contributions prove insufficient to meet the full cost of the Conference, the remainder would be met from the United Nations budget. Some members felt, however, that the Conference should be financed primarily by means of a special provision in the United Nations regular budget.

"33. The fourth duty of the Preparatory Committee would be to recommend the venue. If a host country is found this problem would be solved. However, some members felt that a Conference would be possible only if it were held at the United Nations Headquarters simultaneously with a meeting of the General Assembly and perhaps in place of the meetings of the Third Committee of the Assembly, because they considered that otherwise the cost of the Conference would be prohibitive. Other members felt, however, that this would obscure the impact of the Conference and the amount of the publicity given to its deliberations and conclusions. These members felt that the Conference could be held at the United Nations only if the General Assembly were to meet earlier and end on about 24 November to give the Conference four clear weeks, if needed, in December. This period was also desirable from the point of view that Human Rights Day, 10 December, would fall within it. It was agreed that such questions would need to be examined in detail and precise recommendations drawn up by the Preparatory Committee. Some members felt that the Preparatory Committee should report its findings through ECOSOC to the twenty-first (and twenty-second) sessions of the General Assembly in 1966 and 1967. Others were of the opinion that it should report to the twenty-second session of the Commission on Human Rights in March 1966, through ECOSOC in summer 1966, for transmission to the General Assembly at its twenty-first session in 1966.

"34. The Committee agreed that a Secretary or Executive Secretary for the Conference should be appointed at the earliest possible date. This would be done by the nomination of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

"35. To summarize, the Committee recommends:

"(a) that the Assembly should decide to convene an International Conference on Human Rights in 1968 as one of the observances in the International Year for Human Rights;

"(b) that four special regional seminars should be held during 1966 and 1967, in four regions of the world, at which the progress made within Member States in giving effect to human rights and fundamental freedoms would be reviewed.

"(c) that the Commission on Human Rights should at its twenty-first session appoint a Preparatory Committee of fifteen members to prepare for the Conference;

"(d) that the Secretary-General should appoint an Executive Secretary to the Conference at the earliest possible date who would be a member of the Preparatory Committee;

"(e) that this Preparatory Committee should make recommendations on the terms of reference and structure of the Conference, its agenda, duration and venue, and should direct the preparation of the necessary studies and documentation and prepare estimates of cost;

"(f) that an appropriation should be made within the United Nations regular budget towards the cost of the Conference and that the probable amount of this appropriation should be made known to the Preparatory Committee as early as possible; and

"(g) that reports from the Preparatory Committee on the progress of this effort should be submitted through (the Commission on Human Rights) and the Economic and Social Council for consideration at the regular sessions of the General Assembly in 1966 and 1967."

140. In connexion with section E, the Working Group had indicated (ST/SG/AC.5/5, paras. 3-4) that it had become clear, after long discussions and repeated efforts of conciliation, that members would not reach agreement on all points in the Working Group. Such agreement as had been reached related to the following points: that an international conference should be held in 1968, that a preparatory committee should be set up to consider the organization and terms of reference of such a conference and make recommendations, and, in consultation with the Secretariat, see also to the production of necessary documentation by experts. The Working Group had further indicated that several of its members had found difficulty in dealing with certain other portions of section E. The disagreement had been such that the Group had decided that each member should have the right to take an independent line on any of the main areas of disagreement, viz., the four regional seminars, the executive-secretary of the conference, financing, the objects and terms of reference of the conference, the question as to which body should appoint

or nominate the preparatory committee and to which body it should report, and finally the question as to whether the possibility of having some Member States act as host to the conference should be explored by the preparatory committee. It was in view of these fundamental points of difference that members proposed that section E should be considered by the Committee as a working paper rather than as a text proposed for adoption.

141. The Committee considered section E of the Working Group's report at its twenty-second to twenty-eighth meetings. In this connexion the Committee had before it a statement by the Secretary-General of the financial implications of the proposed International Conference on Human Rights (ST/SG/AC.5/5/Add.1, section V).

142. In accordance with the decision which had been taken at its tenth meeting, the Committee first held a general debate on the question of convening an international conference on human rights during the year 1968. On the suggestion of the representative of France, the Committee decided that the general debate should be divided into two phases. During the first phase the Committee sought to determine the objectives to be fulfilled by an international review of the situation in respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms during the year 1968, a matter on which the Commission on Human Rights had made a series of suggestions in operative paragraph 2 of its resolution 6 (XX); during the second phase the Committee considered the most effective and practical means of achieving the objectives which it envisaged for such a review, whether by an international conference, by regional seminars, or by other means. In practice, however, the two phases of the discussion were not completely separated.

143. The Commission on Human Rights, in resolution 6 (XX), had set out as objectives of the proposed International Conference on Human Rights the following: (i) to review the progress which has been made in the field of human rights since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; (ii) to evaluate the effectiveness of the methods and techniques used by the United Nations in the field of human rights; and (iii) to formulate and prepare a programme of further measures to be taken subsequent to the celebration of Human Rights Year.

144. There was no disagreement in the Committee with reference to the objectives to be fulfilled by an international review of the situation in respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms during the year 1968, and members of the Committee generally supported the objectives set out by the Commission on Human Rights.

145. With reference to these objectives, several members of the Committee shared the view that the proposed international conference should not be regarded as an end in itself but rather as a means of promoting respect for and observance of human rights and freedoms, that it should not be considered as a means of forcing the pace of progress in this area nor as a substitute for patient efforts to educate and inform peoples and their Governments. These members pointed out that the degree of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms was not easily gauged, that different countries had differing ideas of freedom, and that States were particularly sensitive about interference in their domestic jurisdiction. They suggested that, for these reasons, any attempt to appraise the effectiveness of the methods and techniques used by Member States or by the United Nations in the field of human rights should be made on the basis of careful methodological studies prepared in a serene atmosphere untroubled by political controversies; and maintained that the successful accomplishment of the objectives set out by the Commission in resolution 6 (XX) would depend on a careful, expert, and dispassionate approach.

146. Another point of view relating to the proposed objectives was that the Committee should endeavour to focus attention upon a single specific and concrete objective which the conference might aim at achieving, such as the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms in all countries.

147. With reference to particular objectives, varying points of view were expressed. With regard to the proposed review of progress which had been made in the field of human rights, it was suggested that such a review should include, at the international level, the examination of the functions relating to human rights entrusted to the Economic and Social Council, the Commission on Human Rights, and other United Nations organs, together with a review of the activities in that field undertaken by the specialized agencies; and at the national level, should include the examination of programmes for the promotion and protection of human rights applied in Member States. On the other hand, some members felt that the system of periodic reports on human rights sufficed for the execution of the proposed review.

148. With regard to the proposed evaluation of the effectiveness of the methods and techniques used by the United Nations in the field of human rights, it was

suggested that this might well turn out to be the most important objective to be achieved in 1968 and would be more effective than any other means of achieving better national and international protection of human rights. On the other hand, it was pointed out that such a review was constantly being carried out by the appropriate organs of the United Nations, including the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, and the Commission on Human Rights.

149. With regard to the proposed preparation of a programme of further measures to be taken for the promotion and protection of human rights subsequent to 1968, the view was expressed that it was absolutely necessary to plan such further measures because the work of the competent organs of the United Nations had not proved satisfactory. On the other hand, it was pointed out that the adoption of a programme of long-term aims which did not take sufficient account of the practical difficulties to be overcome in the contemporary world would not be very useful, and that it would be preferable to specify a few carefully chosen and thoroughly studied goals to be achieved during the years following 1968.

150. One member suggested a fourth objective should be added to the list envisaged by the Commission on Human Rights: consideration of the question whether sufficient importance had been accorded to the human rights programme within the United Nations. No formal proposal on this point was, however, put forward.

151. With regard to the question of the most effective and practical means of attaining the objectives mentioned in resolution 6 (XX) of the Commission on Human Rights, widely divergent views were expressed by various members of the Committee. Opinions were divided on such questions as whether the proposed international conference on human rights was possible and desirable, whether preparatory work connected with the conference should be carried out in regional seminars, by experts, or by the Secretary-General; and whether or not the results to be expected from the conference justified the costs which would be involved.

152. Some members of the Committee considered that the proposed international conference was both possible and desirable. They pointed out that conferences were a means commonly employed by international organizations and that one on the subject of human rights would be particularly appropriate both to review past progress and techniques and to encourage further advances in the promotion of human rights. In their view such a conference could serve to heighten awareness of human

rights problems, and of the need to create effective safeguards. It would also give moral support to the countries that were grappling with domestic human rights problems. They pointed out that although intensive and valuable work was being done by various United Nations bodies with competence in the field of human rights, no comprehensive appraisal of the progress achieved or of the difficulties encountered in the promotion and protection of human rights had been undertaken, and that no study of the methods and techniques used in this field had been made. The conference would serve to draw attention to United Nations work in the human rights field, and the United Nations itself, as well as its Member States, would benefit from a concerted effort to enforce respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms. The conference would enable States to participate in an international exchange of information and experience in the field of human rights in a manner similar to the regional exchanges which had taken place under the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights and which had proved to be of great benefit. Moreover, the conference might consider a number of urgent questions which the existing human rights bodies had not yet dealt with, such as the question of strengthening the executive power of the United Nations in the field of human rights and the need to establish special organs in Member States to co-ordinate the efforts of national and international bodies concerned with human rights.

153. On the other hand, some members of the Committee had reservations concerning the proposed conference, primarily on the ground that they doubted that it would prove sufficiently useful to justify the expenditure involved. In their view, a review of the progress achieved in the human rights programme could be undertaken by the General Assembly itself, or by another competent organ of the United Nations, at its 1968 session, without incurring any extra cost.

154. With regard to the question whether preparatory work for the proposed conference should be carried out in regional seminars, by experts, or by the Secretary-General, there was also a wide divergence of opinion. Several members of the Committee were strongly opposed to regional seminars on the ground that they would be unfair to those countries which, for one reason or another, would be excluded from them. Others opposed regional seminars on the ground that they would

disturb the existing pattern of the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights. They stated that they were categorically opposed to diverting a single dollar from the advisory services programme which had proved very successful, particularly since diversion of programme funds would tend to disrupt the pattern of regular seminars and fellowships established under that programme. These members pointed out also that such seminars could lead to undesirable political controversies and would not contribute to any progress in the preparation of the international conference. It was also remarked that the convening of both a conference and regional seminars would exceed the available resources and the need, and that time might be wasted in settling conflicts between the views of experts expressed in the seminars and those of Governments expressed through their representatives at the conference. On the other hand, it was pointed out that other risks might be incurred if the preparatory work were to be carried out either by experts or by the Secretary-General, since this work might involve criticism of the domestic policies of Governments.

155. With regard to the question whether or not the results to be expected from the conference justified the costs which would be involved, some members expressed the view that the costs would be justified if the expenditures were held to the minimum, if the conference served as the culminating point of the activities of the International Year for Human Rights, if it emphasized the theme of the celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and if it served to further the cause of human rights and in particular to draw the attention of national authorities to the need for a programme of further measures to promote and to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms. It was noted that what was contemplated was not a conference on the scale of the recent Conference on Trade and Development but one on a more modest scale which, if convened in conjunction with a regular session of the General Assembly, would involve very little extra cost. On the other hand, some members of the Committee voiced concern regarding the financial implications of the proposed conference, which in their view could not be fully justified.

156. The representative of the Philippines, in an effort to correct the shortcomings of the terms of reference of the preparatory seminars referred to in paragraph 29 of the report of the Working Group, proposed that items (a), (b) and (c) of the first part of that paragraph should be replaced by the following:

> "(a) to exchange information and experience on the progress and significant developments achieved in their national programmes in the field of human rights and in solving, or attempting to solve, certain common problems in the implementation of their human rights programmes; (b) to reach conclusions and recommendations in regard to the means for more effective national and, where appropriate, regional programmes in the field of human rights."

157. Other members, however, felt that such questions of detail should be worked out by a preparatory body, and that the Committee should concentrate on clarifying the form which the proposed conference should take and how it should be financed.

158. With regard to the form of the conference, some members felt that it should be composed of plenipotentiaries while others considered that experts would be preferable.

159. With regard to the financing of the preparatory measures required by the conference, there was opposition to the suggestion in the report of the Working Group that funds normally appropriated for use under the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights might be utilized. Others referred to the danger of involving the Advisory Services Programme in regional seminars in which there was a great risk of political conflict and invective because private experts would be called upon to discuss, and possibly attack, what had been done by Governments other than their own; and from which some States inevitably would be excluded.

160. Believing that there was a consensus of opinion in the Committee on sufficient points to make a compromise agreement possible, the representatives of Argentina and Brazil submitted to the Committee, at its twenty-fifth meeting, the following text to be considered for inclusion in the report of the Committee (ST/SG/AC.5/L.4):

The Committee discussed the decision formulated by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 6 (XX), operative paragraph 2, that the Committee should give "special thought to the possibility of holding an International Conference in 1968 to (i) review the progress which has been made in the field of human rights since the adoption of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, (ii) evaluate the effectiveness of the methods and techniques used by the United Nations in the field of human rights and (iii) formulate and prepare a programme of further measures to be taken subsequent to the celebration of Human Rights Year;"

Bearing in mind the need to fulfil the above objectives, which it endorsed, the Committee recommends that the Commission on Human Rights should invite the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, to

(a) Convene a meeting of governmental representatives, who are experts in human rights, for the purpose of giving effect to the aims set forth in resolution 6 (XX), operative paragraph 2, of the Commission on Human Rights;

(b) Such a meeting would be held during the twenty-third session of the General Assembly for a period of _____ weeks;

(c) In order that this meeting may fulfil its task properly, the Committee considers that (i) governmental representatives participating in it must be experts with a profound knowledge of human rights; (ii) its discussions must be conducted on a technical level in order to secure the lofty aims for which the meeting has been convened and criticisms of individual countries and policies must be avoided; and (iii) the meeting must be carefully and properly prepared, the task of assembling the basic documentation being entrusted to a selected group of experts;

(d) Arrangements for drawing up the agenda, the preparation of documents and other questions concerning the meeting should be entrusted to the Secretary-General and officials designated by him in consultation with the Commission on Human Rights or any other organ it may designate for this purpose;

(e) The resolutions of the 1968 meeting shall be transmitted to the General Assembly for consideration and adoption.

161. There was wide support in the Committee for all portions of the joint text with the exception of sub-paragraph (b) of the second paragraph, which suggested that the proposed meeting should be held during the twenty-third session of the General Assembly for a period of _____ weeks. With regard to this sub-paragraph, three divergent points of view were expressed.

162. Some members of the Committee supported the joint proposal because they saw many advantages in holding the conference during the twenty-third session of the General Assembly. They felt that such an arrangement would decrease the extra costs involved, and at the same time would ensure that the conference would be in session on 10 December 1968, the twentieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

163. Some members indicated that their Governments could agree to the holding of a conference on human rights only if it were to be scheduled in conjunction with the 1968 session of the General Assembly.

164. Other members of the Committee, however, pointed out that the date suggested created certain problems. They expressed the view that it was not appropriate for the work of the General Assembly, which was composed of plenipotentiaries, to be interrupted for several weeks in order to make room for a conference of experts; and voiced the hope that the conference might be held in advance of the General Assembly's session in order that the recommendations of the conference might be considered and approved by the Assembly without undue delay.

165. Still other members felt that the conference might most conveniently be held immediately after the adjournment of the twenty-third session of the General Assembly, and suggested that the Assembly might consider ending its regular session earlier than usual to allow the conference to take place during the first three weeks of December 1968.

166. Some delegations were prepared to agree to having the conference convened either immediately before or immediately after the General Assembly's session, provided that none of the Assembly's time was pre-empted by the conference.

167. With regard to the proposal, in the joint text, that the task of assembling the basic documentation for the conference should be entrusted to "a selected group of experts", the question was raised how the experts would be selected and what the financial implications might be. It was pointed out that it was important that all regions, all legal systems, and all cultures should be represented among the group of experts, and that special consideration should be given, in selecting members of that group, to those parts of the world which were most in need of efforts to promote human rights. The question was also raised as to the properties of the group which would be experts in civil and political rights

and the proportion which would be experts in economic, social and cultural rights; in this connexion it was pointed out that in order to secure a well-balanced review, the group must contain experts on all human rights.

168. The representative of the United Kingdom, however, proposed that the words "a selected group of," should be deleted from paragraph (c) (iii) of the Argentine-Brazilian text as unnecessary.

169. The representative of India, on behalf of a number of delegations with whom he had consulted, proposed a series of amendments to the joint text, as follows:

1. Amend sub-paragraph (b) to read: "Such a meeting may be held on dates in close proximity to the twenty-third session of the General Assembly to be indicated by the Commission on Human Rights, in a manner which will be least expensive to the United Nations;"

2. Amend sub-paragraph (c) to read: "In order that this conference may fulfil its task properly, the Committee would recommend for the consideration of the Commission on Human Rights that governmental representatives participating in it may be experts conversant with human rights; its discussions must be conducted with a view to securing the lofty aims for which the conference is convened, in which criticism of individual countries and policies should be avoided, and the documentation and preparatory work for the conference should be carefully and properly prepared with the help of a group of experts to be selected by the Secretary-General;"

3. In sub-paragraph (d), replaced the words "should be entrusted to" by "may be done as usual by", and replace the words "or any other organ it may designate for this purpose" by the words "and/or the General Assembly".

170. The Committee agreed that in the first line of sub-paragraph (a) the word "are" should be replaced by the words "Should, as far as possible, be"; that sub-paragraph (c) (i) should read: "governmental representatives participating in it should be persons conversant with human rights"; that in sub-paragraph (c) (iii) the words "a selected group of experts" should be replaced by the words "selected experts"; that in the same sub-paragraph the words "basic documentation" should be replaced by the words "necessary technical studies" and that in sub-paragraph (d) the word "documents" should be replaced by "other documentation".

171. With regard to the Indian proposal to replace the word "during" in sub-paragraph (b) by the words "on dates in close proximity to", there was some discussion in the Committee. While some members of the Committee could accept the Indian proposal, one member stated that if the word "during" was changed, he would be unable to accept the compromise text as a whole. The same member objected to a suggestion that sub-paragraph (b) should be deleted on the ground that he considered it to be an essential part of the compromise text.

172. In view of the divergent views strongly held by various members of the Committee, it was suggested that the matter should be left open, either by referring in the report to the three possibilities - convening the meeting before, during, or after the twenty-third session of the General Assembly - or by stating that the time and place should be chosen later by an appropriate United Nations body. Another proposal was that the Rapporteur should be authorized to record the different points of view in the present report, leaving the Commission on Human Rights free to decide the question of the date of the conference.

173. In view of the desire expressed by several members of the Committee that a positive recommendation of some sort should be put forward by the Committee on the question of the scheduling of the proposed conference, an effort was made to reach a consensus of opinion. In this connexion the representative of Costa Rica proposed, at the twenty-seventh meeting of the Committee, that the wording of sub-paragraph (b) should be revised to read as follows: "Such a meeting would be held, in the opinion of some delegates, immediately prior to the beginning of the twenty-third session of the General Assembly, during the session, in the opinion of others, and once the Assembly had completed its work, in the opinion of another group of delegates." The representative of Guatemala suggested that the text of sub-paragraph (b) might be replaced by the words, "Such a meeting would be held in 1968", it being understood that the various points of view expressed in the Committee would be reflected in the present report. The representative of Lebanon suggested that sub-paragraph (b) should be replaced by the following text: "The representatives were unable to reach agreement on the date of the meeting. Some representatives stressed that they could not agree to a meeting unless it was held during the regular 1968 session of the General Assembly. Some representatives stressed that they could not agree to a meeting unless it was held outside the

regular session, i.e., just before or just after the session. Some representatives suggested that it should be left to the Commission on Human Rights to settle the matter. All representatives agreed on the need to keep the conference expenses to a minimum, every effort being made to achieve optimum results."

174. After considering thses alternative texts, the Committee decided to adopt the suggestion of the representative of Costa Rica, to which there were fewest objections.

175. The representative of France reiterated the opinion that his delegation could accept the convening of a conference only if it was expressly stated that the conference would be "held during the twenty-third session of the General Assembly". He pointed out that it was his delegation's understanding that the Committee had taken a formal decision, to consider the Working Group's report in such a way that recourse to voting would be avoided, so as to encourage unanimous agreement. It was still possible to reverse that decision, but if that was done it should be done clearly and formally. In his view the Argentine-Brazilian proposal, which had been put forward as a compromise, should have been considered in that spirit, but if unanimity was impossible one of two courses should have been adopted: either the disagreement should have been fully and precisely recorded in the present report or, because of the particular difficulty of the question, the Committee should have reverted to the normal procedure of voting.

It was pointed out by the Chair that the Committee had applied the procedure it had followed so far to the effect that it had adopted the decisions by a method of consensus with the understanding that the reservations expressed would be mentioned in the present report. The ruling of the Chair was that the proceeding was perfectly in order and the one to be followed. The representative of France objected to such a procedure noting that the "consensus procedure" is compatible with reservations but not with oppositions and therefore he announced that his delegation no longer associated with any of the decisions taken in connexion with section E of the Working Group's report.

176. With reference to sub-paragraph (d) of the joint proposal, the representatives of Argentina and Brazil accepted the amendment which had been proposed by the representative of India (see paragraph ____). The representative of the

177. In order to take into account these points of view, the Chairman suggested that sub-paragraph (d) should be revised to read: "Arrangements for drawing up the agenda, the preparation of further documentation and other questions concerning the meeting should be done as usual by the Secretary-General and officials designated by him in co-operation with the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on the Status of Women." This formulation was approved by the Committee.

178. The Committee accordingly forwards to the Commission on Human Rights, for its consideration, the following recommendation:

XV

The Committee gave a great deal of attention to the holding of an international conference during the International Year for Human Rights 1968. The Committee had before it, in this connexion, the observations on the programme of measures and activities for the International Year which had been received from Governments (ST/SG/AC.5/4 and Add.1-10, as well as a statement of the financial implications of the proposed conference (ST/SG/AC.5/5/Add.1, section V). The most important area of discussion was the formulation of the purposes of the conference, whether it would provide an effective medium or forum for the purposes stated in resolution 6 (XX) of the Commission on Human Rights and how best it could make a lasting contribution to the cause of human rights within the meaning of General Assembly resolution 1961 (XVIII).[1/]

In this connexion the Committee discussed in particular the decision formulated by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 6 (XX), operative paragraph 2, that the Committee should give "special thought to the possibility of holding an International Conference in 1968 to (i) review the progress which has been made in the field of human rights since the adoption of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, (ii) evaluate the effectiveness of the methods and techniques used by the United Nations in the field of human rights and (iii) formulate and prepare a programme of further measures to be taken subsequent to the celebration of Human Rights Year";

Bearing in mind the need to fulfil the above objectives, which it endorsed, the Committee recommends that the Commission on Human Rights should invite the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, to

(a) Convene a meeting of governmental representatives, who should, as far as possible, be experts in human rights, for the purpose of giving effect to the aims set forth in resolution 6 (XX), operative paragraph 2, of the Commission on Human Rights;

(b) Such a meeting would be held, in the opinion of some delegates, immediately prior to the beginning of the twenty-third session of the General Assembly; during the session, in the opinion of others; and once the General Assembly has completed its work, in the opinion of another group of delegates.

(c) In order that this meeting may fulfil its task properly, the Committee considers that (i) governmental representatives participating in it should be persons conversant with human rights; (ii) its discussions must be conducted on a technical level in order to secure the lofty aims for which the meeting has been convened and criticisms of individual countries and policies must be avoided; (iii) the meeting must be carefully and properly prepared, the task of preparing the necessary technical studies being entrusted to selected experts.

(d) Arrangements for drawing up the agenda, the preparation of further documentation and other questions concerning the conference should be done as usual by the Secretary-General and officials designated by him in co-operation with the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on the Status of Women.

(e) The resolutions of the 1968 meeting shall be transmitted to the General Assembly for consideration and adoption.

## Section F: Co-ordinating Machinery and Reporting

179. Paragraphs 36-37 of the report of the Working Group read as follows:

"36. The programme recommended in the foregoing paragraphs contemplates activities by the United Nations, the specialized agencies, Member States and international and national organizations. For an effective year of observances some measure of co-ordination of these separate activities will be required. Some of the recommended measures are set out precisely and in reasonably full detail; in others no more than the broad outlines of the proposal can be given at this stage, and details require to be worked out. The International Labour Organisation for example, will be giving further thought to the form which its participation in the year's observances might take; UNESCO has not yet been able to consider to what extent the international press can be brought in to participate in the proposed conference on Freedom of Information. When these details have been worked out it will be desirable that information about them should be communicated to a central organization or central point. Part of the recommended activities during 1968 and in the period leading up to it will involve co-operation between Member States in regional seminars and conferences. Such regional activities will need to be centrally organized. It is likely that individual Member States will have new ideas in regard to measures they might undertake in connexion with 1968 and they will wish to communicate some of these ideas to other Member States. A clearing house for such information will obviously be needed.

"37. Some members considered that part of this function of co-ordinating centre and clearing house can be discharged by the Secretary-General, but that for other parts, he will need to call on a body representing Member States of the United Nations for advice and decision. These members were prepared to recommend therefore that the Committee on the International Year for Human Rights should reconvene after 1965 and should as required by the Secretary-General, assist in discharging the functions of clearing house and co-ordinating centre in respect of the programme of activities connected with the International Year. There were of course other views as to how this function should be discharged. Alternative methods of dealing with the problem were expressed by other members and these may be summarized as follows:

"(i) that such a need should be brought to the attention of the Commission on Human Rights in the report of the Committee; or

(ii) that the responsibility of such co-ordination falls within the functions of the Secretary-General; or

(iii) that the Commission on Human Rights should be invited by the Committee to recommend that the General Assembly appoint a Co-ordinating Committee."

180. Section F was considered by the Committee at its twenty-first meeting. There was general agreement in the Committee that the measures and activities recommended in connexion with the International Year for Human Rights should be co-ordinated, and that the primary responsibility for co-ordination would lie with the Secretary-General. Some members considered that a body consisting of representatives of Member States should be set up to assist the Secretary-General in the discharge of that function; others, however, pointed out that there were enough United Nations bodies capable of providing co-ordination without setting up another. In particular, reference was made to the Commission on Human Rights, the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC), and the Co-ordination Committee of the Economic and Social Council.

181. Some members suggested that the Secretary-General could, if necessary, consult the officers of the Committee, without the need to call the Commission on Human Rights into session. Other, however, were of the view that it was hardly for the Committee to arrogate the function of co-ordination to itself or to its officers.

182. Members expressed the view that it would be preferable to find the simplest possible solution, and that in any case a single body - preferably one already in existence - would suffice. There was general agreement that the Secretary-General should enlist the help of an existing body when the need for co-ordination arose, and that the Commission on Human Rights was the most appropriate body for this purpose.

183. The representative of the Philippines proposed the deletion of the fourth sentence of paragraph 36 of the draft submitted by the Working Group. The Committee agreed to the proposal. With regard to paragraph 37, the Committee agreed to a proposal by the Chairman that the paragraph should be revised to indicate that the great majority of members of the Committee were of the view that the activities recommended should be co-ordinated, that the co-ordinating and clearing-house function should be carried out by the Secretary-General, and that a small number of members had considered that a body consisting of representatives of Member States should be set up to assist the Secretary-General in the discharge of that function. The Committee further agreed to authorize the Rapporteur to revise the text of paragraph 36 as necessary in order to bring it into line with the agreement recorded in the revised text of paragraph 37.

184. Accordingly, the Committee submits to the Commission on Human Rights the following recommendation:

XVI

The programme of measures and activities recommended by the Committee contemplates activities by the United Nations, the specialized agencies, Member States, and international and national organizations. For an effective year of observances, some degree of co-ordination of these separate activities will be required. Some of the recommended activities are set out precisely and in reasonably full detail; in others, no more than the broad outlines of the proposal can be given at this stage, and details require to be worked out. When these details will have been worked out, it will be desirable that information about them should be communicated to a central organization or central point. It is likely that individual Member States will have new ideas in regard to activities they may wish to undertake in connexion with the International Year for Human Rights, and that they will wish to communicate some of these ideas to other Member States.[1/] Some members of the Committee were of the opinion that the activities recommended should be co-ordinated, and that the co-ordinating and clearing-house function should be carried out by the Secretary-General; other members considered that an existing body, consisting of representatives of Member States, should assist the Secretary-General in the discharge of that function.[2/]

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1/ Paragraph revised by the Rapporteur, as authorized by the Committee at its twenty-first meeting.

2/ Paragraph drafted by the Rapporteur, as authorized by the Committee at its twenty-first meeting.